



Sister Francisca Ramón Muñoz de Bustillo

2.3. Founded by lay members of the Vincentian Family.

FRANCE

2.3-FRA.640.11

Daughters of the Cross of Paris

Founded 1640 at Paris, France, by Madame L'Huillier de Villeneuve (1597-1650), a Lady of Charity, following the advice of Saint Vincent de Paul to establish a system of free schools and education of young women. The Duchess d'Aiguillon (1604-1673), also a Lady of Charity,

may be considered a cofounder, and was a major benefactor, as well as advocate in obtaining approbation.¹³⁸ At one time the institute of Saint-Quentin received refuge (due to war) from this institute. Francis de Sales provided the initial inspiration to the founder, as well as a copy of his original rules for the Visitation. Villeneuve had been actively consulting Vincent de Paul regarding community affairs since February 1648, and after her death, Saint Vincent became responsible for overseeing and stabilizing its organization and government (1650-1660). Louis Abelly (1604-1691), bishop of Rodez, became its ecclesiastical superior for twenty-four years. Foundations by this institute became diocesan after each mission was firmly established and many have combined.¹³⁹ Some formed a federation (1969) known as the *Mysterium Christi*.¹⁴⁰

2.3-FRA.696.0

Dominican Sisters of Charity of the Presentation of the Holy Virgin (Sisters of the Presentation of Tours)

Founded 1696 at Sainville in Eure-et-Loir, France, in the diocese of Chartres by the Reverend François Mespolié, O.P., and Blessed Marie Poussepin (1653-1744, beatified 1994). Poussepin, as a youth had dealings with the Daughters of Charity through the Confraternity of Charity at Dourdan where her mother, Julienne Fourrier Poussepin, was a

¹³⁸Marie de Vignerod (1604-1673), the Duchess d'Aiguillon, was an active collaborator and benefactor of Vincent de Paul. She was president of the Confraternity of Charity at Saint-Sulpice, and replaced Madame de Lamoignon as president of the Ladies of Charity of the Hôtel-Dieu. Cardinal Richelieu was her uncle. According to Abelly, the Daughters of the Cross owed a debt of gratitude to Vincent de Paul: "After God, it was M. Vincent who stretched out a hand to support them and to preserve their congregation . . . it was he who, by his wise advice, greatly contributed to put them in the excellent state in which they now are, they are bound to regard him, if not as their founder and institutor, at least as their preserver and restorer." Quoted in Coste, *LW*, 1: 313.

¹³⁹Daughters of the Cross of Shreveport, Louisiana (United States), were founded 1855 by Mother Mary Hyacinth Le Connat (1817-1897, superior 1855-1866; 1871-1877) as a mission of the Daughters of the Cross of Paris for whom Vincent de Paul had been a guardian after the death of their founder. It became a diocesan institute. Generalate: 1000 Fairview, Shreveport, Louisiana 71104 USA. See *DIP*, "Figlie della Croce, di Shreveport" 3: 1562.

¹⁴⁰*DIP*, s.v. "Figlie della Croce, di Le Puy" 3: 1557-58; "Figlie della Croce, di Parigi" 3: 1561-62; "Figlie della Croce, di Limoges" 3: 1559; "Figlie della Croce, di Lavaur" 3: 1556-57; "Agostinina Ospedaliere di Liege" 1: 227-28; "Giansenismo, scoglio del" 4: 1163-76; Guérin, Pierre" 4: 1473; Chalumeau, "La Descendance Spirituelle," 17; Mother Mary Hyacinth Le Connat, D.C., *Abridged Biography of Madame Marie de Villeneuve* (Shreveport, Louisiana: Daughters of the Cross Publications, 1974), 40-41; 43-45; A. de Salinis, S.J., *Madame de Villeneuve, née Marie L'Huillier d'Interville, Foundress and Teacher of the Society of the Cross (1597-1650)*, 2nd ed. (Daughters of the Cross Publications, Torquay, England, 1981), 247-48; G. F. de Beauvais, S.J., *History of the Establishment and Growth of the Congregation of the Daughters of the Cross*, trans. Mary Clarissa Lacour, D.C., and Dorothea Olga McCents, D.C., from the 1754 edition (Shreveport, Louisiana: Daughters of the Cross Publications, 1975), 32. *VDP*, 1: 195-97.

Lady of Charity. From it, this institute evolved. Poussepin was a member and officer in the confraternity, as had been her mother before her. The dress of this institute for a long time resembled that of the Daughters of Charity, but with the Dominican colors of black and white. In the beginning, this institute had a special relationship with the group of women which became the Sisters of Saint Paul of Chartres (Daughters of the School of Levesville.)¹⁴¹ (Generalate: via Valdieri, 4; 00135 Rome Italy.)

2.3-FRA.845 .0

Religious of Saint Vincent de Paul

Founded 1845 at Paris, France, in the chapel at the motherhouse of the Congregation of the Mission by Jean Léon Le Prevost (1803-1874) in conjunction with Clemente Myionnet (1812-1886) and Maurizion Maignen (1822-1890). All three founders were laity who were active members of the Saint Vincent de Paul Society and had been inspired to establish a new society of priests and brothers entirely consecrated to the poor because of Vincent de Paul's example.¹⁴² Le Prevost had been associated with Frederick Ozanam and was the person who promoted naming his Conferences of Charity as the Saint Vincent de Paul Society.¹⁴³ (See 6.1-FRA.921.0.) (Generalate: Via Palestro, 26; 00185 Rome, Italy.)

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

FRANCE

3.1-FRA.682.3

Sisters of Charity of Our Lady of Évron

Founded 1682 at La Chapelle in Bas-Maine, France, by the young widow Madame René Thulard (1654-1735, née Perrine Brunet). The

¹⁴¹AP, 1501; DIP, s.v. "Poussepin, Marie" 7: 194-95; "Carità Dominicane della Presentazione della SS. Vergine (di Tours)" 2: 330-33; Chalumeau, "La Descendance Spirituelle," 19. Bernard Préteselle, *Marie Poussepin or the Exercise of Charity*, trans. Sister Madeleine Clemence Vaillot, O.P. (Dighton, Massachusetts: Dominican Sisters of Charity, n.d.), 52-63; 249-55.

¹⁴²Le Prevost also headed the Conference of Saint Vincent de Paul in the Parish of Saint Sulpice, Paris, for twenty years. It was he who brought the first two Little Sisters of the Poor to Paris.

¹⁴³AP, 1422; DIP, s.v. "Religiosi di San Vincenzo de' Paoli, Padri e Fratelli" 7: 1681-85; "Angebault, Guillam-Laurent" 1: 631; "Le Prevost, Jean-Léon" 5: 602-04. "Monsieur Vincent—un cœur à la mesure du monde," 101; "Congregação dos Religiosos de São Vicente de Paulo," *Informativo* 15 (November-December 1981): 31. MEV 9, no.10 (1931): 235-40.