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GENERAL INTENTION FOR OCTOBER.

*Named by the Cardinal Protector and blessed by the Pope
for all Associates.*

The Conferences of St. Vincent de Paul.

“ **I**T is all very well talking, and arguing, and holding our own against them, but why can we not do something? ” This was the very practical question that Frederic Ozanam put to himself and his seven friends in a little room in Paris, in 1833. Ozanam was a brilliant young French Catholic who had been for sometime crossing swords with atheists and scoffers at religion, the aftermath of the French Revolution, and he had grown weary of a well-nigh fruitless task. There is little to be gained in controversy with scoffers; deeds will often move them when words have failed.

The suggestion to turn from controversy to some work of active charity came as a surprise to the rest, and although