



Objective: To inspire young people to discover the SVP and spark their enthusiasm for joining a school youth SVP group.

SLIDE 1: Introduction of yourself (keep it brief and ideally include some random fun facts that make you relatable eg. football team or favourite biscuit!) Explain that it's an exciting time for the school as they prepare to launch a Youth SVP and your here to share a little about what it is about!

(Before clicking SLIDE 2. As a starting point let me just introduce you to St Vincent de Paul).

SLIDE 2: Play Video

SLIDE 3: So the SVP inspired by this man St Vincent de Paul has a mission to offer practical support in small and significant ways (Roberta's story). To do that we have to eyes open to read the signs of the times and where the Holy Spirit may be calling us to action.

SLIDE 4 – 8: Optional Slides! Short Icebreaker.

- Divide the room into two teams.
- Choose one volunteer from each team to come up to the front and face their team.
 - Rules:
 - The audience must remain silent.
 - The volunteers cannot look at the screen.
 - A word or action will appear on the screen (e.g. driving a car).
 - The audience silently acts out the word for their team member to guess.
 - The first volunteer to guess correctly wins a point for their team.
 - End with a round of applause for the winning team and give a small prize to the volunteers if desired.

Why Play This Game?

- The game shows that Youth SVP is about having fun together and taking action.
- Just like in the game, we need to observe our community, understand its needs, and figure out how we can help.
- This is the role of an SVP member—taking action to make people's lives better!

SLIDE 9: The SVP is like a puzzle, made up of many different parts.

It includes Mini Vinnies in primary schools, Youth SVP in secondary and 6th form, students at university and adults all the way up into their 80s and 90s. What unites them all is their shared purpose: coming together to pray, plan, and make a difference! The SVP also organises summer camps (perfect for 6th formers who may be interested in volunteering).

We run shops and community projects to raise funds and offer support.

Additionally, we work with parliament to help influence decisions that will benefit those who are most in need across the country.

SLIDE 10: Frédéric was a student in France in the 1800s. He started a group to talk about ideas, but one day someone asked him what the group was doing to help the world? That made him think, and he decided to take action by helping others. (You could make them put their hand up for which one they think it is for these next few questions)

His first act of kindness was leaving firewood on the doorstep of a family who needed it. In 1833 Paris, firewood was very important because it helped families stay warm and cook food.

Bonus question: When Frédéric left the firewood, did he knock and chat with the family, walk right in, or knock, drop it, and run? Answer: Frédéric knocked, dropped the firewood, and ran away. But later, he felt bad and went back to meet the family. This is a big part of what the SVP does—they don't just give help, but also make friends and support people.

SLIDE 11: Anyone want to guess?

"Go to the poor, there you will find God."

St. Vincent believed that while God is in the Church, faith shouldn't be confined there. In a world with many different beliefs, our Christian faith is most visible at Christmas and Easter, when we see Jesus as a poor, homeless child and as a suffering prisoner on the cross. These images connect with the struggles in our world today. This is why the SVP is inspired to care for and support those in need.



SLIDE 12: So this is what every Vincentian does (SVP member). We see where there are people who might need help or care in our community. We think about some of the poverty we might see.

You could ask someone to name a type of poverty we might see in our community.

We think about what resources we have and how we could help and then we do it!

SLIDE 13: This group needs a number of different skill sets to function well.

- It needs a chair person (or president) someone who people listen to and who can help make sure everyone's ideas and thoughts are shared.
- It needs a secretary. Someone who is organised with an eye for detail who can keep people on track.
- It needs people who are good at maths who can keep an eye on the fundraising.
- It needs people who are practical who can maybe bake cakes, make posters, plan events as part of a team
- and it needs friendly people who are good at getting others involved.

I really hope that some of you are sitting there thinking 'Yeah I've got those skills!'

SLIDE 14: That group that forms run themselves (you will have some support from staff) but you run it! And here are just some of the things the 112 groups around the country got up to last year! What will we be adding to this list next year from your school?

Finish by thanking them for listening and telling them next steps on how to get involved!