### SVP A Celebration of the Word 1833 on leadership



Slide 1: Holding Page

Slide 2: Opening Prayer

Loving God, You are the light that breaks through the darkness, The strength that carries us when we feel weak, The hope that holds steady when life feels uncertain.

**Slide 3:** We bring You:

Our stories Our challenges Our worries Our dreams

And the desire to make a difference

In this moment, we pause...

To be still, to listen, and to remember You are with us.

**Slide 4:** Renew in us the gift of hope:

HOPE that rises when we feel weary.

HOPE that trusts You even when the future is unclear.

HOPE that inspires us to love, to serve, and to stay faithful.

Slide 5: Remind us, God, that we are never alone,

That Your Spirit is with us in the corridors we walk, in the words we share,

and in the hearts of those we learn and work alongside.

Slide 6: Anchor us again, Lord:

Not in marks or achievements, but in Your faithful love. Not in pressure to succeed, but in knowing we are held by You. We place all we carry into Your hands, trusting You to hold what we cannot. Amen

Slide 7: Scripture Reading

Matthew 25:35 - show video reflection here

### Slide 8: Ouestions for Reflection

- When Jesus says, "I was hungry, I was thirsty, I was a stranger...", what images, feelings, or real-life situations come to mind for you? How might those challenge the way you see people who are in need around you today?
- Think of a time when someone met a need of yours, big or small. How did that experience shape you? In what ways have you been able(or would you like) to extend that same kind of care to others?
- What is one realistic way you could live out this scripture in the coming week? How might you feel more connected to Jesus in your everyday life?

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- Slide 9: Watch the short film about Frassati
- Slide 10: Dialogue and Encounter

When you hear the word "leader," what picture comes to mind? What does our world understand about leadership?

(Allow space for responses)

- Slide 11: The Vincentian way and the example of St Pier Giorgio Frassati turns that world picture upside down. Leadership isn't about being above others; it's about being humble enough to serve.
- **Slide 12:** Pier Giorgio was a student, a climber, a bit of a joker. But here's the remarkable thing: he gave his bus fare to someone poorer, then ran home so he wouldn't be late. Carried bread in his bag,

Turn to the person next to you and finish this sentence: If I had to run home because I gave my money away, I would feel \_\_\_\_.

- **Slide 13:** Pier Giorgio gives us a perfect example of Vincentian leadership: seeing Christ in the poor and acting quietly, not for attention, but through small, hidden choices made with real love.
- Slide 14: Invitation to Reflect on Leadership

Pier Giorgio didn't command or instruct. He simply said, "Come with me." Real leadership isn't about making people follow; it's about opening a door and walking through it together.

- **Slide 15:** His motto was Verso l'alto to the heights. True leadership doesn't push people down; it lifts them up toward joy and toward Christ.
- Slide 16: OPTIONAL

Reflect on leadership qualities Pier Giorgio embodied (joy, service, courage, humility, prayer)

- Tie knots: For each quality that resonates with you, tie a knot in your ribbon. Example: "I want to lead with joy → tie a knot."
- Continue until the you are finished.
- Hold the ribbon stretched upward and pray together: "Lord, help me to climb 'to the heights' with these qualities, and to lead others to You."

Keep the knotted ribbon somewhere visible (on a desk, in a prayer corner, or even in a pocket). Let it serve as a reminder of the climb "to the heights" with St Pier Giorgio Frassati.

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### Slide 17: Closing Prayer:

Loving God,

You set mountains before us—peaks that call us upward, trails that challenge us, and views that take our breath away.

Remind us that true leadership is not standing above, but walking alongside, lifting others toward joy, kindness, and Your love.

**Slide 18:** Give us eyes to see You in those around us, hands ready to serve, and hearts brave enough to take the first step on paths of compassion. When the climb feels steep, anchor us in Your presence.

When the journey feels long, fill us with hope that rises like the morning sun.

**Slide 19:** May we always remember: to lift another is to rise ourselves, to act with love is to walk closer to You.

We place our steps, our choices, our hearts into Your hands, trusting You to guide us Verso l'alto — to the heights.



