

WORLD YOUTH SUNDAY

Included in this resource:

- Suggested draft email for the Parish Priest.
- Suggested example of a speech
- A short reflection and call to action to be shared during the notices.
- A short activity that parishioners can engage with after Mass.
- Bricks to print and cut out

It may be a good idea to run a cake sale (or something similar) alongside the activity as an opportunity to fundraise. If you are interested in doing that, please talk to your local SVP conference and tell them you'd like to raise money for the national fund. They may have some other ideas or ongoing projects they could also suggest. The QR code to donate can also be found in this document.

Suggested draft email to be sent to the parish priest

Dear Fr. [Last Name],

I hope this email finds you well. My name is [Your Name], and I am part of the SVP 1833 in [Your Location].

I am reaching out to see if it would be possible for myself to speak at Masses in your parish over the weekend of Christ the King. I would love to share how our group is living out our faith, with a special focus on the role of the young adults in the SVP. If this was a possibility, we would be delighted to celebrate with you in this way.

I look forward to hearing from you soon.

With kind regards, [Your Name]

Before Mass starts:

- Go into the sacristy and introduce yourself to the Priest who will offer Mass. Ask him at what point during Mass he would like you to speak.
- Check if an SVP poster is displayed somewhere in the porch or in the Church (if so, please point people to the information on it)

Before speaking read quietly the following short prayer:

Lord, please be with me today as I speak to the people of this parish. Let me be a good witness to your love working in my life, and help me to open the hearts of other young adults/adults to the possibilities of countering You through the events, retreats, pilgrimages offered by the SVP and in particular at Holy Communion. Amen



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Example of speech

Good morning/evening. My name is... and

(Tell them a little bit about yourself- age, where you study/work, and if you are a parishioner tell them that this is your parish.)

Today I'm here to speak to you about the St Vincent de Paul Society.

The St Vincent de Paul Society was founded by a 19 year old student, Blessed Frédéric Ozanam in 1833. He who walked through the poorest streets of his community on his way to university lectures each day. The poverty he came across inspired him to be the change and make a difference to those around him in need. Today the SVP works in communities around England and Wales as well as globally to continue this legacy. Our members range from our youngest Mini Vinnies in primary schools, our Youth SVP in secondary schools and parishes, our SVP1833 groups for young adults, and our adult Conferences.

My personal experience of the SVP is...

(How did you get involved, what you've done, where you went, who you've met, and how you've felt)

As a young adult in the parish, I'd like to challenge you to think about how you can continue to be pilgrims of hope. We have witnessed, an extraordinary young adult, St Pier Giorgio Frassati, a member of the SVP, recently be canonised. Frassati was a joyful, adventurous young Italian who loved hiking, serving the poor, and living his faith with courage. He showed that holiness can be lived through simple acts of kindness- giving up your bus fare, handing out bread and taking off your shoes for someone else. How can we be like St. Pier Giorgio Frassati in our daily actions?

There are some paper bricks and pens at the back, and I'd like to invite you after Mass to write your name on one side and a simple act of kindness that you will do this week on the other side and then add it to our display.

I appreciate you all listening today. I would really encourage you to check out the SVP Young Vincentians Facebook and Instagram page. Starting today, the SVP is launching a reverse advent calendar and resources focused on St Pier Giorgio Frassati. You can follow this on our website and social media.

Thank you as always for your support, thank you to Father for letting me speak today and please keep the SVP in your prayers.







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SVP + 1833



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