

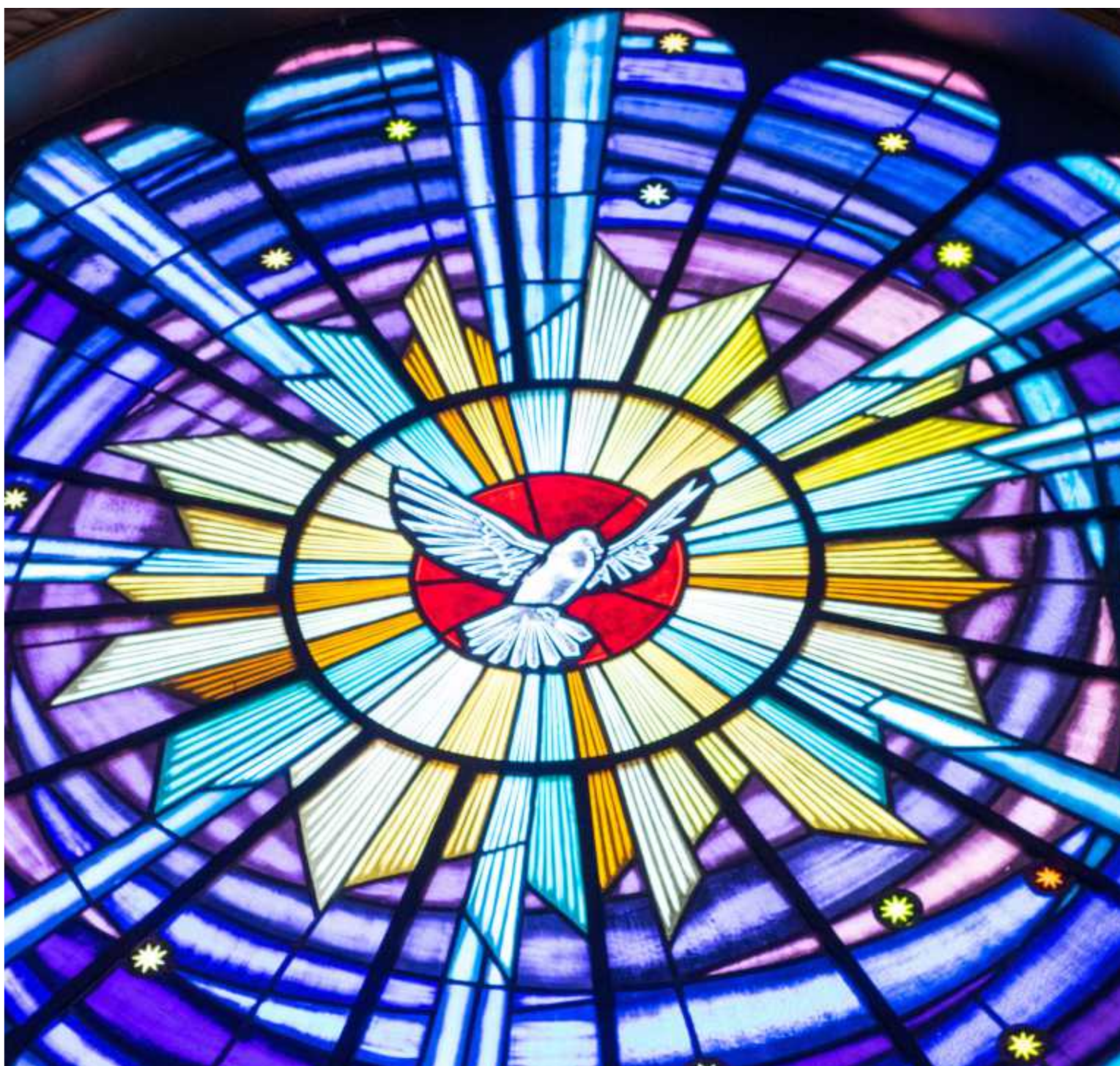


St Vincent  
de Paul Society

England and Wales

Turning Concern into Action

# QUIZ ICEBREAKER





## LEADERS GUIDE

### Session Outline:

This session helps to introduce the St Vincent de Paul society to the young people in a fun, interactive and competitive way.

### Session Objective:

To understand some of the back story of the St Vincent de Paul society and to have some fun breaking the ice at the beginning of the session.

### What you will need:

- Power point **QUIZ**
- To divide the group into teams of between 4 & 6
- A piece of paper or a wipeable board for each team
- A pen for each team

### Introduction to the Leader:

- This session helps to introduce the St Vincent de Paul society to the young people in a fun, interactive and competitive way. Use it as an icebreaker at the beginning of your session to warm everyone up.
- If they aren't sure they can guess :-)
- Ahead of starting make sure you have a prize for the winning team and make sure they know their is a prize for the winners.
- If you have laminated sheets they can share their answer after each question.
- Once all answers have been revealed by the teams below are parts of the SVP story to draw out in each question.
- **TOP TIP:** by listening carefully it may help them in future questions!

### SLIDE 1



### ANSWERS

- SVP – Stands for **St Vincent de Paul Society**. A group that are inspired to put their faith into action in the communities they live in.
- What they do? – some of the answers that get a point are below. Ultimately the society will work with any form of poverty and try to offer support and help.

- Work with the poor*
- Foodbanks*
- Children's Camps*
- Charity Shops*
- Prisoners and elderly*
- Debt advisors*
- Furniture*
- Refugee and Asylum seeker support*
- Visiting and befriending*
- Support the Homeless*



# QUIZ

## SLIDE 2

Frédéric Ozanam the founder of the SVP went out and left some ..... on the doorstep of a family who needed it.

**MONEY**

**WOOD**

**FOOD**

**Who are the SVP?**

## ANSWERS

- Frédéric was a student in France in the 1800's.
- He originally started a society that was all about debating ideas.
- It was only when he was challenged by someone in the group about what this group was doing for the world that he felt the call to become more active in his faith.
- His first act of charity was to leave FIREWOOD on the doorstep of a family in need.
- Nowadays the SVP do support people a lot more with food and money. But in 1833 Paris firewood meant you could heat your home and cook a warm meal.
- For a bonus point: When Frédéric took the firewood did he knock on the door and have a chat with the family, walk straight in because he was so excited to help them or knock, drop and run?
- The answer: Frédéric legged it. But when he got home he felt an unrest and so he went back and met the family. This has become a huge part of the SVP charism - they don't just drop charity but befriend and accompany the people they help.

## SLIDE 3

I would like to embrace the whole world in a network of .....

- Frédéric Ozanam

**LOVE**

**CHARITY**

**Who are the SVP?**

## ANSWERS

- The answer is Charity.
- If you put love you can have 1/2 a point because the word embrace is important.
- The SVP have a saying 'that you don't just feed the hungry but you bring the tablecloth'. It's about putting love and care into every action.
- Frédéric's dream, has been realised. One student has inspired a worldwide organisation. You can now find on every continent and in most countries in the world members of the SVP.



# QUIZ

## SLIDE 4

Worldwide there are over 700,000 Vincentians & The St Vincent de Paul Society is nearly 200 years old.

Who are the SVP?

## ANSWERS

- Worldwide there are over 700,000 Vincentians.
- The society is nearly 200 years old (formed in 1833).
- Its an amazing network of charity.
- This is what St Vincent was all about. Organising charity so that charity is effective and reaches the most people. This is why St Vincent is the patron Saint of the Society - because he is the father of organising.
- This also means that in pretty much every country in the world the SVP can reach out and help - even in hard to reach areas or at times when things are hard like in the pandemic or places at war.

## SLIDE 5

St Vincent said:  
Go to the \_\_\_\_\_, there you will find \_\_\_\_\_

Who are the SVP?

## ANSWERS

- Go to POOR, there you will find GOD.
- St Vincent totally believed as a priest that God could be found in the Church but he wanted to challenge the perception that the Church is where we box our faith.
- Living in a secular society where we live amongst people of different faiths and none there are only a couple of key moments in the year where our Christian faith comes to the forefront for everyone; Christmas and Easter. At these moments the world is given an image of Jesus as a refugee child, poor, homeless and born to a teenage mother and on the cross at Easter as a prisoner, persecuted and frightened. They are moments that resonate with our world. They are the moments when our God allowed himself to experience our human suffering, poor and weak. **This is why the SVP are inspired to offer care and support to such a wide**

## SLIDE 6



- The gifts are
  - Wisdom
  - Understanding
  - Good Counsel
  - Fortitude/ Courage
  - Knowledge
  - Piety/Reverence
  - Fear of God/Awe and Wonder.
- For the second part of the question – give points for any group that can give good reason for the gift they have chosen.

## ANSWERS

## SLIDE 7



- The parable is the Good Samaritan.
- The links could be
  - Helping someone who was struggling.
  - The Samaritan was the least likely to help (anyone can have a heart for charity)
  - Took them somewhere safe
  - Gave money and resources
  - Came back to check they were ok (didn't wash his hands and walk away)

## ANSWERS

(There are many more – give points as you see fit)

## Conclusion:

- Give the winning group their prize and thank the group for their participation.
- Young Vincentians often use Fruit Pastilles as a prize. The story below explains why...



*'I was inspired to join the SVP, and to serve for a number of years, after two very rain soaked men, visited the hospital in the North East, that I was a patient in. I was in pain, and depressed, they made me laugh and gave me some fruit pastilles. During lockdown, I got offers of help from the SVP and a beautiful, hand made card from the young "Vinnie's" at St Marie's school. I get a plant at Christmas from the SVP too. I can't express how much these actions have brightened my life and lifted my soul. Long may their good works continue.'*