



St Vincent
de Paul Society

England and Wales

Turning Concern into Action

Teacup Candle Craft

TEA WITH
THE
SVP

1. Collect your materials

- Ask for donations of old cups and saucers — mismatched, ones are fine as long as they're safe to handle.
- Gather:
 - Recycled tea cups (ask parishioners ahead of time via bulletin / noticeboard / announcement at Mass)
 - Old candles for melting (or bulk wax if needed)
 - Wicks + a few glue dots
 - A small slowcooker or portable hob for melting wax
 - A ladle or jug for pouring
 - Essential oils (optional — for fragrance)
 - A table covering (old cloth, newspaper)

2. Advertise the event

- Advertise as a zero-waste, upcycling, and community-building activity.
- Emphasise that funds raised will support the SVP.
- Offer an option to sponsor a candle or donate materials

3. Set up the space

- Tables with enough space for making candles + enjoying tea
- Station with wax-melting equipment (safety first!)
- Tables for tea/refreshments
- Clearly marked donation/fundraising area

4. On the Day

- Coffee & cake first
- Let people relax, chat, and browse the candle station.
 - Candle making station – Offer two options:
Quick hands-on activity
- A volunteer or participant helps stick wicks in cups and pours melted wax
- Guests watch or help pour, then leave candle to set (collect later or next week)
Buy a ready-made candle
- Have some candles pre-made (perhaps by your local Mini Vinnie or Youth SVP group or a project you support in the community eg. homeless shelter, refugee centre, nursing home)

4. Fundraising ideas

- Suggested donation per candle: e.g., £3–5 (or “what you can give”)
- Option for people to donate materials (old tea cups or candle stubs)
- Extra donation for those who just want to support and drink tea but not make.

