



Commissioning Guide

Condensed Version

1) Set up a sacred space using your Vinnies candle, bible, and Mini-Vinnies commissioning power point slide. Start the ceremony with the Mini Vinnies prayer.

Thank students for giving up their time to be part of such an important group. Have each child then introduce themselves and say one reason why they decided to be a part of Mini-Vinnies.

2) Explain the St Vincent de Paul logo focusing on the fact that it is all about raising awareness and helping people. Explain what Vinnies do and what the Mini Vinnies group will do.

3) Explain that we are now going to take some time to reflect upon how we can all help people in our own community. Play music for 1 minute.

4) Ask the Mini Vinnies children to come forward to receive their badge and say the pledge.

5) Students are asked to raise their right hand, form their fingers in the shape of a "V" for Vinnies and say the Mini-Vinnies pledge together.

Longer Version

Acknowledgment of Country and Anthem

Welcome

Welcome to our Mini Vinnie's School Prayer, the Saint Vincent De Paul Society, is a community of people who works towards helping the poor people who are suffering throughout the world.

Mini Vinnies is a program for school children want to make a difference and help with social justice. This is the first time we have had a Mini Vinnies group at our school and we would like to welcome Paul and Kaye who are our Vinnies representatives to our special Mini Vinnies school prayer and commissioning ceremony.

Introduction

Let us begin our prayer with the sign of the cross. In the name of the Father...

We would now like to pray our Mini Vinnies prayer with you.
Lord, open our eyes that we may see the deepest needs of your people.
Move our hands that we may feed the hungry.
Touch our hearts that they may bring warmth to those who are sad.
Let us share our time and possessions with those in need.
Give us the care that strengthens the sick.





May we all be a source of support and encouragement for each other as we strive to build a more loving society.

Amen.

Sacred Space

Quiet Music about Social Justice

Reader: We bring a green cloth to our sacred space to symbolise that we are in the season of ordinary time.

Reader: We bring our Mini Vinnies little book of prayers to the sacred space, to symbolise the love we have in our hearts for the poor, homeless and marginalised people.

Reader: We bring a bible to our sacred space, to symbolise God's word.

Reader: We bring our St. Vincent De Paul Society candle to our sacred space as a symbol that Christ is alive in our hearts and in the good work that we will do here at school as part of our Mini Vinnies group.

Our Inspiration

The Saint behind the Society: St Vincent de Paul

Date of birth: 24th April 1581

Place of birth: Pouy, France

Occupation: Priest and servant of the poor

Died: 27th September 1660

Canonised a saint: 16th June 1737

Feast Day: 27th September

The Woman behind the Saint: St Louise de Marillac

Date of birth: 12th August 1591

Place of birth: Auvergne, France

Occupation: Wife and Mother

Died: 15th March 1660

Canonized a saint: 11th March 1934

Feast Day: 15th March

The Founder: Blessed Frederic Ozanam

Date of birth: 23rd April 1813

Place of birth: Milan, France

Occupation: Lawyer and Professor

Died: 8th September 1853

Beatified: 22nd August 1997

Gospel: Jesus Mission- Luke's Gospel



Prayers of the Faithful:

God, Please help us to establish a positive, helpful Mini Vinnies group here at our school.
Lord hear us...

God, please help us to continue to develop on the Mackillop and Jospelite spirituality by 'never seeing a need without doing something about it'.
Lord hear us..

God, please watch over the poor and homeless people and keep them safe from harm.
Lord hear us..

God, we pray for love and hope, may all of the people who are facing challenges and struggles in their daily lives, continue to believe in you and the hope that your son gave us, through his death.
Lord hear us..

Commissioning: We would now like to invite Paul and Kaye forward to present our Mini Vinnies SRC Children with their special badge and to officially commission our Mini Vinnies group.

Pledge: Students say together

Mini Vinnies Pledge

As a member of Mini Vinnies, I promise to make a difference in my world by:

- Caring for, respecting and loving myself.
- Strengthening my friendship with Jesus by praying each day and talking to others about him.
- Caring for others in my school and community by being a friend to those who are alone, in need or in trouble.
- Contributing to the happiness of my family through my help, respect, consideration, joy and kindness.
- Caring for, appreciating and enjoying God's creation: the environment.
- Treating others the way I would like them to treat me.

