



St Vincent de Paul Society

Christine Knight

St Laurence's SVP Cambridge

St Vincent de Paul (SVP) Society

- National and international charity, founded in Paris in 1833
- Turning concern into Action
- Relieve poverty
 - Financial poverty; AND
 - Social / spiritual poverty
- Person to Person contact



Our work from St Laurence's parish

- Helping with house moves
- Utility connections – water, electricity
- Budgeting
- Filling out forms (e.g. for benefits)
- Taxi fund to get to Mass (parishioner suggestion)
- Senior citizen annual luncheon (with CWL)
- Mass for the sick
- Mini Vinnies at the primary school



Our work from St Laurence's parish



- One off requests

- Holidays

- Summer camp for children (Essex)
 - House in Norfolk donated
 - Pilgrimage to Lourdes

- Fence repairs

- Buy household items or find them through Besom etc.

Who we help

- Not just Catholics or parishioners
- Requests for help received from other sources

- In 2016 out of St Laurence, Cambridge, the SVP visited:
 - Over 600 visits to families/individuals
 - 605 hours of service (average of 11.5 hours/week)
 - PLUS: +400 hours of practical assistance (projects, phone-calls, transport)



Who we help

- Out of St Laurence, SVP:
- 60% of visits are to elderly
- Other 40% to
 - Hospital
 - Families (incl travellers, refugees)
 - MH issues
 - Prison
 - Homeless
- Eucharistic Ministers



Helping older parishioners

- To help relieve isolation
- Afternoon tea at a garden centre
- Annual luncheon (with CWL)
- Afternoon conversation with tea and games (parishioner suggestion)

- Fellow parishioners
 - know who needs help
 - have ideas for how to help



Funding

- Donations
 - Parishioners
 - Members
- Grants – within the SVP or external
- Alive in Faith from 2017 for 5 years



Volunteers and who to help

- The SVP is available to help you and others
 - Financially poor
 - Spiritually poor
 - Socially poor
- Please let us know if you know someone needs help
- New members always welcome – no lack of volunteering work
- DBS checked



SVP in St Laurence, Cambridge

- 6pm Mass – Tony Ashdijan, Mary Martin, Melanie DeSouza, Therese Ashdijan
- 8am Mass – Liz Campbell, Bernard Rudd, Paul Chiy
- 9.30 Mass – Catharine Warren, Jim Infield, Veronica McGrath
- 11am Mass – Christine Knight, Michael McEwan, Monica King, Stephanie Weichert, Petra Tucker, Clare Ransom
- And Bernard Shaw (St Philip Howard!)

