

June 15, 2010

Dear Students,

As part of a full faith formation process, students at Holy Spirit High School are required to participate in meaningful service to others. With the successful completion of the Pilot Program for Service that was initiated with the senior class of 2010, the Christian Service Ministry Program will now be expanded to all four years. Students are encouraged and expected to reach out to the needs of their fellow students, their faith communities, local non-profit agencies and civic organizations in the surrounding counties.

The goal of Christian Service is to empower our students to embrace diversity, to acquire better interpersonal skills, and to develop and integrate compassion for others in their daily lives. This program combines active community service with an academic reflective component. The culmination of these experiences will be to instill lifelong habits of community service.

Students will be required to have the contract/documentation form signed by the agency's contact person who supervised their service hours, as well as, a parent/guardian's signature. Furthermore, students must complete the Reflection form at the completion of their service commitment. Please note that the service activity may not be rewarded monetarily. The following parameters for Christian Service for each grade levels are stated below.

Parameters for Christian Serviced according to grade levels:

Seniors: direct person-to-person(s) service, unrelated by friendship or family. Service with poor, disadvantaged in the local communities
(May 30, 2010 to March 31, 2011) Minimum hours required: 20

Juniors: Collaborate in small groups or as individuals to perform works of mercy and social action, in school, faith, or local communities (Food Banks, Soup kitchens, Charity fundraisers)
(Sept. 2010 to May 16, 2011) Minimum hours required: 15

Sophomores: provide service by supporting HSHS Spirit &Community Outreach endeavors
(Sept. 2010 to May 16, 2011) Minimum hours required: 12

Freshmen: serve others within Holy Spirit HS community on campus, or participate in their faith/church community, outside of school hours, or assist family members.
(Sept. 2010 to May 16, 2011) Minimum hours required: 10

Service hours must be completed by the specified date. Both forms (contract and reflection paper) are to be returned completed to the student's religion teacher on or before the deadline date. Absence is not an excuse for late forms.

Designated hours must be completed before re-admittance to next grade level. Students will receive a Pass or Fail grade on their report cards under the heading, "Christian Service." For Seniors, the service component is a mandated requirement for graduation.

Copies of this letter, the contract, and reflection paper are also available on our website at www.holyspirithighschool.com.

Sincerely yours,

Susan W. Dennen
Principal

Teresa M. Zakroff
Religion Department Chair

Sites for Service

www.volunteerway.org – General volunteer center

wanda.gadsen@atlanticare.org – Atlantic City Medical Center (Mainland Division). Service would include greeting, telephone answering, patient aides, front desk helpers, assistant for dieticians and Silver Spoons feeding program, clerical assistant.

paulaaldi@acrescuemission.org – Atlantic City Rescue Mission Service would include bread runner (pick up food items, need driver's license), courier, office receptionist, kitchen help.

zindellkaren@aclink.org – Atlantic County Division of Parks and Recreation. Service would include landscaping, recreation environment, visitor's assistants and trail management teams.

dcole@aesop.rutgers.edu – Atlantic County 4-H Development Program. Service would include being a leader, after-school volunteers for urban outreach, camp educators and counselors.

Arch206@aol.com – Atlantic Riding Center for the Handicapped Service would include volunteers for riding lessons, managers, special event supporters, gardening help, maintenance and cleaning.

volunteer@bacharach.org – Bacharach Institute for Rehabilitation Service would include front desk, filing and clerical work, groundskeepers, assistants, sewing volunteers, special events.

www.acbgc.org – Boys and Girls Club of Atlantic City. Service would include homework helpers, mentors, office assistants, program assistants, special events assistants.

mlevy@caringinc.org – Caring, Inc. Must be 18 years old. Service would include mealtime aides, attendants to accompany clients on trips, holiday programs.

sphbg51@aol.com – Caring Hospice Services Service would include providing a break for caregivers, companionship, pet, art, or music therapy with patients.

srgracenolan@vhscd.org – Catholic Charities Diocese of Camden. Service would include building maintenance volunteers, sorters to lift and arrange food and clothing. Must be 18 yrs old.

www.taxexemptworld.com/organizations/atlantic-county-nj-new-jersey.asp

This site lists 22 pages of non-profit organizations. General service opportunities website.

www.ysop.org/programs.htm

Youth service opportunities project

Atlantic County Historical Society – 609- 927-5218

Contact: Diane Miller. Service would include library assistants, and museum assistants.

Holy Spirit High School

Service Contract

I have performed the following service work as part of my commitment to my Christian Service Ministry.

1. Student's Name _____

2. Name of Agency or Project _____

3. Place where service was performed _____

4. Name of project supervisor who worked with you _____

5. Hours and/or days of on-site work: _____

Total Hours: _____

7. Description of the service you performed: _____

On my honor, I performed the service as described above.

Student's Signature

Date

I have reviewed this contract and agree that the above named student performed the service described.

Supervisor's Signature

Date

My son/daughter _____, performed the service described above.

Parent/Guardian's Signature

Date

Name _____

Date _____

Reflection Paper

Directions: Read over the following statements and compose your responses in essay form:

1. List the name and mission of your agency and briefly explain your community service work there.
2. Describe the most rewarding experience you had doing this service.
3. Describe the most frustrating experience you encountered during your service project.
4. What was the best lesson you learned from your community service?
5. What advice would you give to someone who is about to begin doing community service?
6. What was your biggest surprise about doing community service? How did the reality of doing community service differ from your expectations?
7. Has your attitude about community service changed from your initial perspective?
8. Has your life been enriched by this experience and will you continue to volunteer your time and talents in the future?

Note: Please answer the above reflection questions and turn in with your signed Service Contract to your Religion Teacher by March 30, 2010. Completion time frame for your community service is from June 30th to March 30th, Please submit the forms as soon as you complete the service project. In addition to the forms that were mailed, you can download the service contract and reflection paper from the school's website.

www.holyspirithighschool.com