

# CHS Service Program

## Rationale:

Catholic High School requires students at each grade level to perform community service. This requirement expresses at the deepest level who we are as a Catholic school administered by the Brothers of the Sacred Heart. We aspire to teach our students to live their faith by imitating Jesus Christ, whose ministry on earth focused largely on service to those in need, whether they be sick, lonely, hungry, or simply neglected by society. As a Brothers of the Sacred Heart school, we recognize our roots in the foundation of the Brothers by Father Andre Coindre, who formed the order precisely to minister to poor, orphaned children. It is our obligation to pass on this spirit of service to our students.

## Requirements:

- 8<sup>th</sup> graders: **5 hours** of community service.  
Freshmen: **10 hours** of community service.  
Sophomores: **15 hours** of community service  
Juniors: **40 hours** of service dedicated to those most in need, otherwise referred to as Type A hours. These 40 hours and the accompanying reflection essay must be completed for admission to the senior year at CHS. Students receive detailed information in their religion class.  
Seniors: **20 hours** of service dedicated to those most in need, otherwise referred to as Type A hours. This service focuses on personal relationships with poor and underprivileged persons, continuing the emphasis of the hours completed for the junior year. Seniors will complete their requirement with an interview instead of a reflection essay.

## Guidelines for underclassmen:

Service for 8th-10th grade students includes volunteer work for any church, school (public or private), health care organization, or other worth organizations in our area. The goal of the service hours for underclassmen is to begin to instill in our students a commitment to the welfare of others as a major part of the Gospel values we teach. Students should document their service by filling out the attached "Verification Sheet." **Please note that this letter, and the following documents, are available on Moodle under the Service page.** Emails regarding new service projects will be sent frequently.

Each student must complete a written reflection on his service experience (see attached) and turn it in to his religion teacher. All service hours, documentation, and reflection assignments must be completed by April 11. Students may now begin to work on their service requirements. The service requirement comprises 15% of students' fourth quarter religion grade. Failure to complete the project by the due date will result in a one letter grade drop. The grade will drop one additional letter grade per week of delinquency. Furthermore, students may not attend orientation for the next school year until they successfully complete their service requirements for the previous school year.

**Note:** Because we are trying to teach students to perform service for the wider community, we do not accept service done for family (as part of a family business, for a parent's job, for grandparents, etc.) or that benefits an organization or team to which the student belongs. Students are informed that such service is already an obligation; it is not what our service requirement is intended to teach.

For all practical purposes, our Lord Jesus Christ began his mission on earth with volunteers. With these volunteers, his disciples, he shared a vision, or a task to be undertaken and some day accomplished. Jesus invited his volunteers into God's renewed vision for humankind. It is the vision of the Kingdom of God; the reality of a world where greatness or power is not our concern, but rather people serving and relating to one another in self-sacrificing love. True love and real service will very often, if not always, demand that I sacrifice for this vision instituted by Jesus.

Bishop Shelton J. Fabre  
Houma/Thibodaux

# Catholic High School Service Hours Verification Sheet

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade level \_\_\_\_ Religion Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Directions: Use this sheet to keep track of your service hours. You must obtain a signature and phone number of an adult who supervised your service, otherwise the service may not count.

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_ Supervising adult  
(print): \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of service: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
Location of service: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of hours: \_\_\_\_\_

Brief description of the work you did:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_ Supervising adult  
(print): \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of service: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
Location of service: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of hours: \_\_\_\_\_

Brief description of the work you did:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_ Supervising adult  
(print): \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of service: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
Location of service: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of hours: \_\_\_\_\_

Brief description of the work you did:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_ Supervising adult  
(print): \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of service: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
Location of service: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of hours: \_\_\_\_\_

Brief description of the work you did:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



### **Religion III - Service Hour Reflection Questions**

*Please reflect and answer the following journal questions in a total of 1 to 2 pages.*

*Your response should be typed in 12-pt Times New Roman font and double-spaced with 1 in. margins).*

*You should include your name, class period, and "Service Reflection" in a header.*

1. What service(s) did you complete? How is it a valuable contribution to community and the Christian call to serve?
2. How has your experience influenced your understanding of who you are as a person?
3. How has your service shaped your understanding of where you fit into the moral ecology?