

CHRISTIAN SERVICE LETTER

“This I command you: love one another.” - John 15:17

In the tradition of St. Vincent DePaul in serving those who are most in need, we look forward to the 2019-2020 Christian Service Program. St. John gives us the charge from Christ himself, that as we consider ourselves members of a Christian Community, we are reminded that our first command is to love one another. In addition, De Paul Catholic High School’s Mission Statement clearly says:

DePaul Catholic High School is a co-educational diocesan college preparatory high school whose mission is to foster the spiritual, intellectual, physical and social growth of its students. DePaul Catholic enables all students to deepen their faith by teaching the doctrine and traditions of the Catholic Church; by strengthening their sense of social justice and societal responsibility, and by helping students form a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. The school community also develops young men and women from varying backgrounds into skilled, compassionate citizens who respect the dignity of all people and leaders who are willing to meet the challenges of a complex global society.

In that spirit, the following are the requirements for this year’s CSP:

- All students are required to participate in Christian Service during their years at DePaul Catholic High School.
Approved ministries would include:
- **8th Grade:** a service project will be planned by the Dean of the 8th Grade Program
15 hours
- **Freshmen – Sophomores** service to the **Elderly, Sick & Dying, Disabled Adults,** and/or service to **Children**
15 hours
- **Juniors** - service to the **Poor,**
15 hours
- **Seniors** - service to a site and organization of their choosing encompassing any of the approved ministries from: **Elderly, Sick & Dying** or **Disabled Adults, Children** or the **Poor.**
15 hours ***(If a senior is required to do a certain number of service hours for an honor society, a senior can reduce their required number of CSP hours to 10 with Theology Teacher approval.)**

***Christian service is defined as the “direct provision of a basic human good to a person or persons in remarkable need.”** The DePaul Catholic CSP program intention is that you will work with people in remarkable needs – people who are poor, homeless, sick, dying, mentally or physically challenged, or in need of education, supervision, or companionship.

In that spirit, the following are the participation requirements:

Grades 8 - 11 will be responsible for a reflection paper or project. A signed service log is to be submitted at the conclusion of the first semester (must show some hours completed) and near the close of the second semester (all hours completed) to their Theology Teacher.

***Grade 12** is required to create a portfolio demonstrating evidence of their four (4) years of service (beginning with the class of 2020). This portfolio can be in the form of projects or in a form determined by the individual Theology Teacher.

Service may include needs within the DePaul Catholic High School facility, Diocesan programs (upon approval) or a service-oriented ministry of their own choosing in compliance with the ministry guidelines above.

Service opportunities may begin over the summer; however, **no completed service paperwork will be accepted during the summer.** Please **keep a copy** of paperwork and submit it to the **Theology teacher** during the first week of classes in September.

- No completed paperwork will be accepted by anyone except the **Theology teacher**. **Please keep copies of paperwork at home, as we do not keep the paperwork beyond the end of the school year.**
- Please note that **it is the student's responsibility to make all contact with the service site, to print or pick-up, and to turn in the required paperwork.** All copies of the required forms and documentation are available in the Main Office, the school's web page (look for Student Life/ Campus Ministry/ Christian Service Program) and in the Theology classroom.
- **There will be a list of onsite service opportunities shared on the Campus Ministry page on the school's website. Please see Mrs. Bullman, Mrs. Gorski or Fr. Andrew for any suggestions or concerns. The individual Theology Teacher will always be a resource for the service requirement.**