

SAINTS JOHN NEUMANN AND MARIA GORETTI  
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL  
1736 SOUTH TENTH STREET  
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19148  
Phone (215) 465-8437 Fax (215) 462-2410  
www.neumanngorettihs.org

Theology Summer Enrichment Assignment 2017  
Grades 11 & 12

Objective:

“As Christians we should be tripping over each other to serve one another.” The objective of the summer enrichment assignment is to provide students with meaningful, relevant and engaging ways to foster their personal faith journey and analytical skills. It is the hope of the Theology department that your summer enrichment assignment helps to spark your curiosity of the world around you.

Overview:

- Students will:
  - Complete 4 hours of Christian Service during their summer vacation.
  - Document and verify their hours, using the form below.
  - Write a 2 page reflection of their service.

Criteria:

- Complete at least four hours of Christian Service at a location of your choosing.
  - See description of available options and possibilities below.
- These hours will not count towards the ten hours students are required to complete for the school year.
- Prepare a written report of your experience (see below).
  - **Reflection and Documentation of Service** will be collected in the student's respective theology class
    - **Due Day: September 11th**
    - First major assessment grade for the first quarter of your Theology class.
    - A late penalty of 10 points per day will be given for each day of lateness.
      - After 1 week of lateness written assignment will be graded at 50%

Definitions of Service

Christian Service Is:

- Unpaid, volunteer work on behalf of another or a non-profit agency.
- Advances the Church's preferential option for the poor
- Meets a need that otherwise would go unmet.
- Is done in the student's local community outside of school hours.
- Is part of a process of engagement with Scripture and the social teaching of the Catholic Church.

Christian Service is NOT:

- Paid work of any kind, or work at a for profit agency.
- Work for family members (babysitting, chores, etc.), or neighbors.

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### Writing Assignment

Students must create a reflection piece as the final component of their summer enrichment assignment. The essay should be a narrative in which the student reflects upon the service that they completed. (Don't just "answer" the questions or statements below with a "yes" or "no" answer, or, necessarily in the order they are listed below. Tell a story about your service from its beginning to its end). Please note that teachers may choose to have you develop your written report into a presentation.

### Formatting Criteria

1. 2 pages in length (500 word min)
2. 12 point Times New Roman font,
3. Double spaced
4. One inch margins
5. Header (Name, Teacher Name, Class Title, Date)

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### Outline of Essay

1. Describe
  - a. Describe your experience objectively.
    - i. Possible prompts:
      1. What did you do?
      2. Where did you do it (purpose of the organization)?
      3. Who were you working with and/or for?
      4. When did this happen?
      5. Why did you do it (what drew you to serve where you did)?
      6. What did you say or otherwise communicate?
      7. Who else was there (specific people who made an impression)?
      8. What did others do?
      9. What actions did you/others take?
      10. Who didn't speak or act? What else happened that might be important (e.g., equipment failure, weather-related issues, etc.)
2. Evaluate
  - a. Examine your experience in terms of TWO of the following three learning outcomes: knowledge of service and justice, skills to serve, or motivation to serve.
  - b. Use at least three Scripture citation in your evaluation of your experience.
    - i. Knowledge of Service and Justice
      1. How did any of the following academic concepts become apparent during this experience? How were the concepts you learned utilized to reach the goal you were trying to accomplish?
        - a. Called to love and serve our neighbor

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- b. Scripture as the basis for morality
  - c. The Church stands for charity and justice
  - d. God has entrusted to care for creation
  - e. Sacramental call of stewardship and discipleship
  - f. Principles of Catholic Social Teaching
  - g. Commandments, Beatitudes and Works of Mercy
2. How did you need to change your approach after new information and experiences were presented to you?
3. What laws and policies affect the individuals your partner organization serves?
4. How did your knowledge about why we serve others and your experience of serving others converge?
- ii. Skills to Serve Others
  1. What was the goal you were trying to accomplish?
  2. How were you able to effectively achieve your goal? Why or why not?
  3. Which skills did you bring to the experience that helped you meet your goal? How did your skills contribute to the diversity of the people with whom you worked?
  4. How did you acquire any new skills by having to work to achieve this goal? Was this an easy or a difficult task to undertake? Why?
  5. How did you recruit others to help accomplish your goals or raise awareness of the problem you are actively trying to address?
  6. How did your strengths and weaknesses contribute to working towards the goal you were trying to accomplish? What were the positive and negative effects of these personal characteristics?
- iii. Motivation to Serve Others
  1. How did this experience increase your sense of responsibility for acting on behalf of others?
  2. How did this experience have any influence on your future educational or career path?
  3. What personal knowledge and skills did you discover or acquire during this experience that will assist you in your future endeavors in this area?
  4. How did this experience inspire you to continue a commitment to serving others?
  5. What steps have you taken - or do you plan to take - to implement this plan of continued commitment?

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Possible Service Locations

1. St. Francis Inn- an opportunity to help serve dinner to people in our city's community who are marginalized. 215-432-5845
2. Mount Nazareth- Spend time with the retired Sisters of the Nazareth community. Talk, laugh, play games...help make their day! (contact Sister Evangeline before June 30, 2016 at 215-338-8992)
3. Parish- Call your parish and find out if there is any opportunities for service available. 4. Clean-up- Contact a local organization or business and organize a group of friends to help clean up the environment
4. St. Christopher's Hospital for Children- Help uplift the day for a child. Give the gift of your time- 215-427-5000
5. Aid for Friends- Work in the kitchen, make and package your own meals, stuff envelopes or deliver meals to families (215-464-2224)
6. Philabundance- [www.philabundance.org/volunteer/](http://www.philabundance.org/volunteer/) The Food Bank offers volunteer hours of sorting and packing. Check out the website for the schedule and other volunteer information. Organize a group of your friends for this worthwhile cause.
7. Project H.O.M.E. – help in project H.O.M.E.'s mission to empower persons to break the cycle of homelessness and poverty. To get more information about volunteering for Project H.O.M.E. at 215-232-7272
8. Habitat for Humanity Philadelphia- If you have any questions or concerns please contact <http://www.habitatphiladelphia.org/volunteer/individuals.php> or by telephone at 215-765-6000
9. Philadelphia Veterans Comfort House- [info@vetsconforthouse.org](mailto:info@vetsconforthouse.org) (267-292-2052) Bucks County Teenage Republic-bct.com
10. PAWS Downtown Adoption Center-Old City100 N 2nd St & Arch St, Philadelphia, PA 19176 Phone number(215) 238-9901
11. Cradles to Crayons -30 Clipper Road, W. Conshohocken, PA 19428 Telephone: 215.836.0958. <https://cradlestocrayons.org/philadelphia/volunteer/families-and-individuals/>
12. Garden of Eden Dance Volunteer - 4442 Frankford Ave, 2nd fl auditorium, Phila, Pa. 19124 [gardenofedenprodo@gmail.com](mailto:gardenofedenprodo@gmail.com).
13. Philadelphia Zoo: 215-243-5200.  
<http://www.philadelphiazoo.org/Get-Involved/Volunteer.htm>
14. Reach out and Read: <http://www.reachoutandread.org/resource-center/find-a-program/>
15. Free Library of Philadelphia: <https://libwww.freelibrary.org/programs/volunteer/>
16. IN CHESTER: St. Katharine Drexel-1920 Providence Avenue, 19013; 610-872-3731
17. SPCA- <https://pspca.org>

Find your own volunteer interest at <https://www.volunteermatch.org/>

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Documentation of Service Form

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Year of Graduation: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Student Number: \_\_\_\_\_ NHS Member ( Y/N) \_\_\_\_\_

Agency	Date of Service	Total Hours	Supervisor name and e-mail	Supervisor Signature

\*\*A supervisor cannot be a parent or a student

<b>On-Campus Work (not during school hours)</b>	<b>Service to Church/Parish</b>	<b>Off Campus Service</b>	<b>Corporal Works of Mercy</b>
Any extraordinary service done to the school outside of the normal obligations to a club or team. Examples include tutoring, Open House, Special Events, etc.	Volunteering at a church or parish. Service work here can include time served as an usher, cantor, or lector; however, this does not include simply being present at a church service. Vacation bible schools/ camps, fundraisers, festivals, cleaning church buildings, assisting with faith based youth ministry, all are under this category.	Assisting with charities, community events, and civic organizations. This could be classified as events that might provide indirect support to those in need or the nonprofits that support them.  Examples include setup/clean up of charity events, city festivals, work at a grades school, and environmental clean-ups.	Service striving to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, give drink to the thirsty, shelter to the homeless, visit the sick etc... This service should be directly serving and in solidarity with these populations. Mission trips, habitat for humanity, soup kitchens, and nursing homes are all examples of this kind of service.