



Christian Service: Freshmen

Jesuit High School



Introduction

Greetings! My name is Sara Brabec and I am the Assistant Director of Christian Service at Jesuit High School. I work with Freshmen and Sophomores in Christian Service. I also teach in the Theology Department.

These slides are designed to provide you, parents and guardians, an **overview** of our Christian Service Program, as it relates to your son.

All freshmen are receiving an in-class orientation to their Christian Service commitment during the first weeks of the semester.

Please speak with your students about questions you have, and feel free to contact me with any additional questions at sara.brabec@jesuithighschool.org

Mission & Identity at Jesuit High School

“Today our prime educational objective must be to form **men and women for others**; men and women who will live not for themselves but for God and Christ . . . Men and women who cannot even conceive of **love of God** which does not include **love for the least of their neighbors**; men and women completely convinced that love of God which does not issue in justice for others is a farce.”

--Pedro Arrupe, SJ, former Superior General of the Society of Jesus

Christian Service: Minimum Requirements

- 16 hours of service over the school year
- Included in the 16 hours must be 6 hours of “core service” (by the end of 4th Quarter)
- Please note that 16 hours is the ***minimum*** requirement. We encourage students to immerse themselves in service they love for as much time as they are able. Students regularly indicate that core service is the most meaningful to them, as it allows them to develop relationships over the course of the year.

Core Service

- ◇ Service with people experiencing ***homelessness, hunger, or poverty***
- ◇ Service with people who live with ***developmental and/or physical disabilities***
- ◇ Service with ***children in need***
- ◇ Service with the ***elderly***

Core service, most fundamentally, is service where students engage directly with members of the wider Body of Christ, encountering our shared humanity in places and faces they might not regularly go or see. All parties involved offer the gift of their presence. Our students are not sent out to fix anything or anyone, but to encounter and be present to new people and experiences, and see what comes of that approach.

Due Dates

1st Quarter (minimum 4 hours of service completed and submitted): **October 7**

2nd Quarter (minimum 8 hours of service completed and submitted): **December 16**

3rd Quarter (minimum 12 hours of service completed and submitted): **March 3**

4th Quarter (minimum 16 hours of service, including 8 hours of core service; completed and submitted): **May 12, 2017**

Note: We encourage students to spread service out throughout the school year, as they grow a great deal during these years and bring new selves to service later in the year. That said, if a student were to complete 6 hours of service during the first quarter, he would only be required to complete an additional 2 hours of service during the second quarter, for a total of 8 hours of service by the end of the first semester.

Notes on Due Dates and Grading

- All grades for Christian Service are assigned by the student's Modern World History teacher.
- All hours verification forms must be submitted to the student's Modern World History teacher.
- Grading for Christian Service is assigned on a Pass/Fail scale.
 - A "P" indicates that the student has successfully completed and submitted the required number of hours for the quarter.
 - An "F" indicates that the student has not completed or submitted the required number of hours for the quarter.
 - An "F" in Christian Service impacts eligibility like any other grade.
- The number of hours due each quarter is cumulative from the beginning of the school year.
- All due dates are common and firm across Freshman, Sophomore, and Junior programming.
- Failure to complete the full service requirement by May 12, 2017 will require the student's participation in Christian Service Summer School.

Notes on Hours Verification Forms

All students should engage in service at **established organizations** in the community that serve populations experiencing various forms of need. In this way, we help address real needs in the community with organizations who are well versed in how to respond to them, rather than wasting time with ineffective efforts.

Hours verification forms must be signed by a **supervisor** from that organization. The person signing the hours verification form cannot be a relative of the student. Hours verification forms signed by family members cannot be accepted for service credit.

Non-qualifying Types of Service

- ◇ Helping or caring for family members
- ◇ Volunteering at student's old school
- ◇ Liturgical involvement (altar serving, choral participation, lectoring)
- ◇ Participation in fun runs/walks

These are things students can be doing anyhow, but do not meet our basic requirement of moving into the wider community and beyond their own comfort zones.

Our Invitation to Students

Move beyond their comfort zones, meet new people, and experience new things in order to expand the ways they understand the world, and become (more and more) young men who are committed to doing justice.

The structure described above is meant to support students in moving beyond comfort zones and developing as human beings.

Resources for Students

Available via Google Classroom, unless otherwise noted.

- Packet with 90+ agencies where students can volunteer
 - Regularly updated list of one-time opportunities
 - Pre-arranged placements: stop by Ms. Brabec's Office (Garnier Hall) to sign up
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Invitations to Families

- Engage in service together
- Allow students to set up service themselves
- Encourage students to seek out interesting and new experiences