

Catholic High's commitment to community service is giving witness to our Faith and empowering our young women to let their light shine. Christian community service is a yearly commitment and a prerequisite for graduation. Through action and reflection, community service provides opportunities to build discipleship within the Catholic High community, the Greater Baltimore community, and the world. In the words of St. Francis, "Preach the Gospel at all times and when necessary use words."

Community Service Requirements:

- Students are required to complete 15 service hours every semester for a total of 30 service hours every year.
- The Campus Ministry Team encourages students to use their interests and talents to provide help to those who are in need. To reflect this, students may serve in the settings listed below. A student who wishes to volunteer outside of these settings must first receive approval from Mrs. Baxter, Campus Minister.

The following are recommended settings to perform community service:

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| ○ Animal shelters | ○ TCHS Institutional |
| ○ Camps that are faith-based and/or service-based | ○ Advancement Office/events volunteer |
| ○ Emergency services (e.g. Red Cross, police, firefighters) | ○ Meal programs |
| ○ Environmental organizations | ○ Pro-life pregnancy centers |
| ○ Food pantries | ○ Retirement homes |
| ○ Homeless shelters | ○ School sponsored community service projects |
| ○ Hospitals | ○ Parish volunteer |
| ○ Housing programs | ○ Tutoring program |

If you have any questions about community Service or service in these settings, please email Mrs. Baxter, Campus Minister: mbaxter@thecatholichighschool.org

Guidelines:

- Students may begin logging service hours for the 2017-2018 school year beginning May 2017. Any hours completed prior to this date will not be counted toward the students' 2017-2018 service requirement.
- Students who do not complete the required number of hours, do not serve in settings that follow Catholic High guidelines, or do not hand in their service logs by the deadlines (Listed following Recommendations), receive a detention and are ineligible for extra-curricular activities and events at Catholic High. This includes, but is not limited to dances and participating in athletics. Repeated failure to meet service guidelines results in further consequences which are detailed in the Student Handbook.

Recommendations:

- Begin community service over the summer. It is common for there to be volunteer training at many sites, so setting up a site takes some time.
- Consider working with one organization throughout the year. Building a relationship with a community is most rewarding for the student and helpful for the agency. Committing to one agency provides connections that are helpful in applying to colleges and jobs.
- We encourage students to wear their Catholic High uniforms or clothing with the TCHS logo on it in order to promote our school.
- Go beyond the requirement. Service hours are used to nominate students for many scholarships and awards.
- We encourage students to “pay it forward.” Look beyond yourself and recognize people and places that need your help. Lux Tua Luceat - Let your light shine!
- It is important that with each activity the student writes a reflection (found on the back of the community service paper). Community service is not only an activity to be completed, but a means to meet Christ in the people who are being served.

Deadlines:

- First half (at least 15 service hours) are due toward the end of the second quarter. Each class is assigned a deadline for the first half of their service hours that falls near the end of the second quarter.
- Final portion of service hours (at least 30 hours total for the entire school year) are due toward the end of the fourth quarter. Each class is assigned a deadline for the final portion of their service hours that falls near the end of the fourth quarter.

	First Half Due (15hrs)	Final Hours Due (Total=30hrs)
Freshman	February 6, 2018	May 1, 2018
Sophomores	January 23, 2018	April 24, 2018
Juniors	December 12, 2017	March 6, 2018
Seniors	January 9, 2018	April 10, 2018

The following Service Awards are given at the end of the school year to deserving Catholic High students:

- Mother Generosa Award: 50-99 hours of service
- Saint Clare Award: 100-199 hours of service
- Saint Francis Award: 200 or more hours of service
- Canticle Award: Senior student with highest total number of hours over all four years.