

## Fairfield Prep Ignatian Service Program (ISP)

**Purpose:** In the spirit of our mission at Fairfield College Preparatory School, the Ignatian Service Program (ISP) will prepare students to embrace a lifestyle of leadership through service after they graduate and continue to live as men for others. It is the goal of the Ignatian Service Program to make students more aware of the needs of others, and of their responsibility to help the materially poor in our communities. Beginning freshman year and continuing through senior year, students become active members of the community (both on campus and off) to engage with their peers and local organizations in meaningful ways that address the needs of the marginalized, the under-resourced, and the underrepresented in our midst.

**Types of Service:** All service opportunities that juniors and seniors participate in for credit towards their ISP goals should adhere to the Corporal Works of Mercy. The Corporal Works of Mercy are the bedrock of Catholic Social Justice practices and originate in the teachings and life of Jesus. These involve direct service to underserved populations in our local communities.

There are 7 Corporal Works of Mercy:

- Feed the Hungry (example: volunteer at a food pantry, soup kitchen, or agencies that feed the hungry)
- Give Drink to the Thirsty (example: volunteer at an organization that provides access to clean drinking water)
- Shelter the Homeless (example: volunteer at a homeless shelter)
- Clothe the Naked (example: volunteer at a community center that serves the underserved populations)
- Visit the Imprisoned (example: volunteer at an organization that serves the formerly incarcerated such as HomeBridge Ventures in Bridgeport, CT)
- Care for the Sick (example: volunteer with an underserved, marginalized, or overlooked population, such as seniors, the sick, the homebound, or those with disabilities)
- Bury the Dead (example: volunteer at organizations that care for the dying and those that offer grief counseling, such as nursing homes or hospice cares)

**Service Hour Reporting and Grading:** Sophomores, Juniors and Seniors will record their hours online using the x2VOL platform. Each class will be able to use x2VOL to record and verify hours, discover new opportunities to serve and begin to tailor their service-related interests. Students will receive a Pass/Fail grade for the Ignatian Service Program on both the semester and end-of-year report cards. Grades are determined by the student's fulfillment of the required service hours and in-class reflections.

**Data Collection and Approval:** All hours will be approved by the organization site supervisor(s) first and a member of the Mission & Ministry department last. Students must update x2VOL consistently to satisfy their requirements for the ISP. The Mission & Ministry Department will work with each Theology teacher to produce bi-weekly reports of student service hours to ensure that all constituents are aware of service hour status. These reports are to keep accurate records of student progress for all parties involved.

**Summer Carry-Over Hours:** Students are allowed to carry over up to 10 hours of service earned during the summer at any time during the year. Summer service work must be at organizations on the Approved Agency List for freshmen, sophomores and juniors. For seniors, applicable summer hours must be at their primary service organization.

**Appalachia Immersion Participation:** If a rising Junior participates in the Appalachia Summer Immersion Trip they will be allowed to carry over 20 hours of service to the upcoming school year. The Appalachia Immersion typically occurs in mid-June.

**Reflections and Theology Department Partnership:** Each Theology teacher will have access through x2VOL to view their student's service hours based on their class section. Training for such will be provided by the Campus Ministry staff. Additionally, service reflections will be conducted in each Theology class and will be graded at the teacher's discretion. Each grade's reflection requirement is noted on the grade-specific documents.

[New Agency Request Form](#)

## **Junior Service Requirements**

All juniors are required to complete **30 hours** of service work by the end of their 11th grade year. These 30 hours are divided among the four quarters of the academic year:

- 5 hours are due by **October 18, 2024**
- 10 additional hours are due by **January 10, 2025**
- 10 more hours are due by **March 21, 2025**
- 5 hours are due by **May 23, 2025**

Students are permitted to “work ahead” - for example, if a student completes 10 hours of service in Quarter 1, they will be able to carry the 5 additional hours from that quarter to the next. Students must complete at least 15 hours of service by the January 10<sup>th</sup> benchmark. Additionally, if students are unable to complete the required hours in a quarter, they will be able to make those hours up in the next quarter only after a conversation with either the Dean of Mission & Ministry or the Director of Campus Ministry.

All hours must be completed at agencies listed in the Approved Agency List, logged in x2VOL and approved by the site supervisor and Dean of Mission & Ministry or Director of Campus Ministry.

**What Kind of Service?:** All service opportunities must adhere to the Corporal Works of Mercy guidelines provided on Page 1. Service to the local community, including any organization listed on the Approved Agency List applies. Service to Prep no longer counts toward your service requirement, but you are encouraged to continue this type of service work above and beyond what is expected. If you are unsure about whether your agency or service project is acceptable, please ask the Dean of Mission & Ministry or Director of Campus Ministry. Examples include:

- Engaging with community organizations such as soup kitchens, food pantries, Boys and Girls Clubs, etc.
- Participating in any scheduled Urban Plunges (15 hours total) (3 opportunities for 24-25: November, February, and March)
- In-person service immersions or initiatives sponsored by Mission and Ministry or other approved organizations (domestic or international)

### **Theology Reflections**

Students will complete written reflections based on their service experience. These reflections will take place in the students' Theology Classes and at the discretion of the Theology teachers.

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1. Go to [www.x2VOL.com](http://www.x2VOL.com) and click JOIN.
2. Select the “My School Instructed me to Complete my Registration” option and click on “Complete my Registration”.
3. Type in “Fairfield College Preparatory School” and click Search – and select our school name.
4. Type in your Last Name and Student email.
5. Enter the remaining profile fields.
6. Set your interests and skills and click Proceed.
7. Set a password, select your group and check the required boxes to complete your registration.
8. Log in and view your Dashboard