HOLY CROSS SCHOOL

CAMPUS MINISTRY & THEOLOGY DEPARTMENT

Community Service Requirement 2024-2025

Goals:

The goals of the Holy Cross Service Requirements are based on the philosophy of Holy Cross School. "The school is committed to serve our community and society through our actions." Service is not optional. It is an obligation we have as Christians and as members of our Holy Cross family. The Holy Cross service requirement is designed to help students become an active part of the legacy of Holy Cross. The service requirement has been designed to achieve the following goals:

- To give each student the opportunity to reflect on the mission of Jesus Christ in regard to serving others.

- To provide the opportunity for each student to experience different types of service with a variety of disadvantaged individuals in order to assist in clarifying each student's particular gifts and talents.

- To emphasize to parents and students the importance Holy Cross School places on service to God's disadvantaged and marginalized by requiring a specific number of hours of service.

- To provide an opportunity for students to develop skills in working with people—skills that are important for life, not just for school.

Minimum Service Hour Requirement by Grade Level:

8th Grade: 10 hours
9th Grade: 25 hours
10th Grade: 25 hours
11th Grade: 25 hours
12th Grade: 25 hours

Each student will also be responsible for writing a two-page reflection essay on their service project. The essay cannot be turned in until all hours have been completed and verified. The Community Service Requirement will be **due on Friday, April 11, 2025.**

Holy Cross Community Service Requirements

Students may begin their service hour requirement during the summer before the school year starting on June 1. Students are encouraged to work in their church parish, neighborhood, school, or larger community and cannot overlap from year to year. **Students should, however, discuss their service hour intentions with a faculty member to ensure the service being performed meets school and archdiocesan requirements for the required hours. During summer hours, please contact the Director of Campus Ministry, Logan Puissegur: lpuissegur@holycrosstigers.com.**

Service hours must be verified by the individual or the official representative of the group for whom the service was done. Each student must obtain a letter or form from the official representative or the agency where the service hours were performed. The letter should include:

- The official representative or agency's official letter head
- The student's name
- The date and description of each service activity
- The number of hours preformed
- A contact name and phone number for the person supervising the volunteer work.

Students will submit these letters to their theology teacher with their service hours verification form.

In addition, each student must submit a two-page Service Reflection Paper to his theology teacher. Each teacher will control how and when this will be accomplished. Consult your theology teacher for specific instructions on the Service Reflection Paper. It is important to remember that a service requirement is not complete until the Service Verification Letter and the Service Reflection Paper are turned in to the student's theology teacher.

Obviously, work done in connection with a student's routine participation on a team or school activity will not qualify for service hour credit. An example of this would be a sports team manager, who would not be able to claim his routine work with the team as community service.

Important: Failure to complete the Holy Cross Community Service requirement will result in the student being required to attend summer school. Seniors who fail to complete their requirement will not be allowed to graduate.

Community service is not the same thing as "working without pay." It is work done for the good of the greater community. It includes work for disadvantaged individuals, soup kitchens, food pantries, homeless shelters, hospitals, community playgrounds, animal shelters, churches, and schools. Work done for immediate family, neighbors, for enterprises engaged in profit-making activities, and work done for political parties or public elections DOES NOT qualify as community service.

Students are encouraged to volunteer at Holy Cross. However, students will only be able to receive half of their total hours volunteering at school. (Example: 9^{th} – 12^{th} graders are required to perform 25 hours. They can only receive a total of 12.5 hours volunteering at school.)

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Community Service Requirement
Information Agreement
2024-2025

I have carefully read the description of the Holy Cross Community Service Requirement at Holy Cross School and I am fully aware that the deadline for completion and verification of the requirement is Friday, April 11, 2025. Failure to complete the Holy Cross Community Service requirement will result in the student being required to attend summer school. Seniors who fail to complete their requirement will not be allowed to graduate.

_____ _____

Printed Name of Student Theology Class Period

_____

Signature of Student

_____

Printed Name of Parent

_____

Signature of Parent

Please return this form to your Theology teacher at the beginning of the school year.

Approved Services Activities:

- Tutor younger students – read, take to the library, help with homework.
- Volunteer at a senior's home/center.
- Help organize local community events – food drives/banks.
- Take part in environmental initiatives – cleaning and recycling operations, park cleanup, planting trees and flowerbeds (students should not use power tools – lawn mowers, hedge trimmers, wood clippers, etc.).
- Become involved with charitable or Church activities.
- Assist with sports teams: community leagues, parks and recreation programs.
- Volunteer in leadership roles with community groups– Youth Group, Leader at Church. • Volunteer at hospitals, libraries, social service or animal welfare agencies, religious communities/places of worship.
- Assist with literacy initiatives–at local libraries, daycare centers, community centers.
- Volunteer in leadership roles with community groups– Youth Group, Leader at Church.
- Volunteer at hospitals, libraries, social service or animal welfare agencies, religious communities/places of worship.
- Assist with literacy initiatives–at local libraries, daycare centers, community centers
- Assist with TCAC seasonal sports– run drills, referee games, assist the coach.
- Assist at the Primary School
- Assist students with special needs.
- Assist adults with special needs.
- Assist Chaplaincy with programs– retreats and Peer Mentoring.
- Facilitate school events such as parent information nights, new student orientations.
- Participate in charitable activities.
- Facilitate environmental activities.
- Serve on school committees and councils –school governance, peer ministry

An ineligible activity is an activity that:

- Includes any activities contrary to the moral teachings of the Catholic Church.
- Is a requirement of a class in which the student is enrolled.
- Would normally be performed for wages by a person in the workplace (students are not to replace paid workers or be paid workers themselves). • Involves the administering of any form or type of medication or medical procedure.
- Involves the handling of substances classed as "designated substances" under the Occupational Health and Safety Act.
- Consists of duties normally performed in the student's home or personal recreational activities.
- Work done for political parties and public elections.