



*St. Maria Goretti High School
Christian Service-Learning Program*

Objectives & Expectations

In the words of St. Teresa of Avila, “Christ has no body now but yours, no hands, no feet on earth but yours....” God has given each of us special talents and gifts, and we are called through vocation to use our talents and share our gifts with the world. By integrating Catholic Social Teaching with direct service, students at St. Maria Goretti High School will learn about the Catholic faith and discover that they can make the world a better place.

Discovering one’s vocation can be a timely process. Some of us hear our calling in elementary school. Others will not find their vocation for decades to come. By examining the seven major themes of Catholic Social Teaching, the service-learning program at St. Maria Goretti High School is designed to help you become a servant leader and discover your vocation. As you are the leader and designer of your own project, the first question you will be asked is: *where is there a need for which you would like to see a change?* Following this question, you will be asked to choose a non-profit organization that addresses this need, and volunteer with that organization for a minimum of 15 hours during the school year. The second question to ask yourself is: *what tangible objectives can I hope to accomplish through my volunteer project?* If you feel that you are having trouble identifying concrete objectives, ask the Campus Minister or the Volunteer Coordinator at your service site for ideas. Finally, take a few minutes to reflect upon how your project addresses at least one of the major themes of Catholic Social Teaching.

The major themes of Catholic Social Teaching are:

1. Life and Dignity of the Human Person
2. Call to Family, Community, and Participation
3. Rights and Responsibilities
4. Option for the Poor and Vulnerable
5. The Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers
6. Solidarity
7. Care for God’s Creation

Some of you may wish to work on the same project together. This is perfectly acceptable. Each of you will need to complete a separate Objectives & Expectations form, as this document is integral to the learning and self-discovery that you are embarking upon. Be open to the Holy Spirit, and let God guide you through your spiritual development as you learn how to make the light inside you shine!

Example of Form 1:

A. Service Project

1. Goal – *To end hunger in Berkeley County, WV.*
2. Service Site – *the Rescue Mission, Martinsburg, WV*
 - a. Objectives
 - i. *Thirty people will be fed each Sunday at the Rescue Mission in Martinsburg, WV.*
 - ii. *A fundraiser that collects canned goods will provide meals to thirty people for one month.*

B. Learning

1. Which major theme of Catholic Social Teaching are you addressing through your project? Explain in 3-4 sentences.

I believe I will address two themes. First, I will address theme 4: the Option for the Poor and Vulnerable. This is because I am helping feed the homeless, who are poor and vulnerable. Second, I will address theme 6: Solidarity. This is because I will be sitting and visiting with the people who have come to be fed, in addition to helping prepare their meals. By visiting with the homeless, I show my solidarity.

2. What do you expect to learn from your direct service? Please write 3-4 sentences.

I hope to learn about poverty and homelessness. I hope that I will learn new ways to lessen the rate of homelessness in my county. I hope to discover if this might be the type of work that God is calling me to do.

*St. Maria Goretti High School
Christian Service-Learning Program*

Objectives & Expectations

A. Service Project

1. Goal – _____

2. Service Site – _____

a. Objectives

i. _____

ii. _____

B. Learning

1. Which major theme of Catholic Social Teaching are you addressing through your project? Explain in 3-4 sentences.

3. What do you expect to learn from your direct service? Please write 3-4 sentences.

*** Please complete Form 1 with a Goretti Religion Teacher.**

*Saint Maria Goretti High School
Service Participation Record*

Please print all information in pen.

VERIFICATION INFORMATION

Student name: _____ **Graduation year: 20**_____

Individual/Agency/Organization:

Project Supervisor's Name:

Position title: _____ **Phone:** _____

Service performed by student:

Date(s) service was performed: _____
(If this service was completed over an extended period of time, please attach the *Service Hours Record*.)

Hours earned per each date listed: _____

Total hours earned for all dates listed: _____

Project Supervisor, please provide some comments regarding the student's service.

Supervisor's signature: _____ **Date:** _____
(Project supervisor, please verify all of the above information as well as any information listed on the student's *Service Hours Record* before signing. Thank you.)

Student signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Parent signature: _____ **Date:** _____

*St. Maria Goretti High School
Christian Service-Learning Program*

Reflection

Please answer the following questions in complete sentences. Thank you!

1. Please list your service site and the goal of your project.

2. Did you complete the objectives you hoped to accomplish when you began your project? Explain how you made a contribution/difference in your community.

3. How did you infuse a theme of Catholic Social Teaching into your project?

4. Were there any challenges or surprises that you handled well during this experience? Were there areas in which you struggled? Please explain.

5. After this experience, is there anything you now know about yourself that you did not know before? Do you feel that you have grown from the experience?

6. Has your faith changed or been challenged as a result of your experience? If so, please explain.
