## SERVICE AS A RESPONSE TO GOD'S LOVE

"Faith of itself, if it does not have works, is dead. Indeed someone may say, "You have faith and I have works."

Demonstrate your faith to me without works, and I will demonstrate my faith to you from my works."

(James 2:17-18)

Acts of service is a response to God's love and an opportunity to reflect God's love to others. It is an integral expression of one's faith in a compassionate and providential God and a demonstration of one's desire to follow Jesus who says, "Love one another as I have loved you." (John 13:34)

Everyone has the capacity and the talent to joyfully contribute for the good of the parish and the community. Even young children discover the joy of giving and making a difference in someone's life when given the opportunity and in following the example of parents. The gift of serving others is a great antidote to the self-centered culture that pervades our children's lives.

Year 2 Confirmation students are expected to serve the Church and the poor through service projects and events sponsored by St. Agnes Church and its various ministries. The RE Office will alert students of various opportunities for service through email and sign-ups. Here are a few opportunities:

- Baking cookies for Christ House (Contact: Alice.paxton@paladinlifecare.com)
- Help with gardening in the Church with the Gardening Angels (Contact: jshirhall@gmail.com)
- Help with the parish gift shop, The Borgo (Contact: theborgo@saintagnes.org)
- Help with preparing/cleaning the sanctuary or with Lenten soup suppers (Contact: saintagnessaintsofservice@gmail.com)
- Help with First Penance or First Communion retreats (Contact:dff@saintagnes.org)
- Help with Parish Picnic, Donut Sundays, etc.

Why are service activities required to be done in the parish? Studies have shown that the likelihood that teens stay in the Faith increases as they meet more adults from Church who invest time with them, both spiritually and personally. (Lifeway Research, 7 August 2007)

Note: Activities and events sponsored by St. Agnes school do NOT count toward Confirmation Service hours. For a service activity to count, it must be open to both St. Agnes school students and Religious Education students and the activity/event is sponsored by St. Agnes Church. If you would like to serve the poor or the parish in an activity not listed above, please contact Mrs. Orosa for approval at dff@saintagnes.org. In addition, service activities outside of St. Agnes Parish may be accepted (with preapproval) for half-credit. Please fill out the Service Log in the next page and submit by the due date.



"The soul of one who serves God always swims in joy, always keeps holiday, is always in her palace of jubilation, ever singing with fresh ardor and fresh pleasure a new song of joy and love."

-Saint John of the Cross

## SERVICE ACTIVITY REPORT

| NAME:    | GRADE: |       |                    |                         |
|----------|--------|-------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| ACTIVITY | DATE   | HOURS | SUPERVISOR<br>NAME | SUPERVISOR<br>SIGNATURE |
|          |        |       |                    |                         |
|          |        |       |                    |                         |
|          |        |       |                    |                         |
|          |        |       |                    |                         |
|          |        |       |                    |                         |
|          |        |       |                    |                         |

"For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me."

Then the righteous will answer him, saying, "Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink?

And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?"

And the King will answer them, "Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me."

(Matthew 25:35-40)

