SAINT MARY’S HIGH SCHOOL
A College Preparatory High School
CHRISTIAN SERVICE PROGRAM

“Our commitment to our Catholic Heritage and our Service in the Community”

The Saint Mary’s Service Program supports the engagement of Saint Mary’s students in service-learning and social justice.

Within the following pages of this packet are the details you need to be successful in our service graduation requirement.

Christian Service Center
Lisa Pijl, Coordinator
957-3340 Ext. 224

Rams- Respect, Academics, Mission, Spirituality
SAINT MARY’S CHRISTIAN SERVICE PROGRAM

The Mission of the Saint Mary’s Service Program is to engage our students in understanding their role as members of the Saint Mary’s Community and to know that human beings are the pinnacle of God’s creation on earth.

The Saint Mary’s Service Program will help to facilitate students’ active involvement in service, faith development, personal leadership and giving witness to God’s loving and continued Presence among us.

Our Christian Service Program works to enhance the Service-Learning in the classrooms and continues our tradition and history in the Stockton Community. We at Saint Mary’s are dedicated to developing students who possess Christian values and we ask our students to make a commitment to service as a part of their graduation requirement. In this way our students strive for the following. “It is love that gives value to all our works; it is not by the greatness or multiplicity of our works that we please God, but by the love with which we do them.” St. Francis de Sales.

SAINT MARY’S HIGH SCHOOL’S GOAL FOR SERVICE

1. STUDENTS LEARN ABOUT RESPONSIBILITY, TIME MANAGEMENT AND GIVING BACK TO THE COMMUNITY.

2. OUR SERVICE REQUIREMENT TAKES WHAT OUR STUDENTS ARE LEARNING IN THEIR RELIGION CLASSES AND PUTS IT INTO ACTION.

3. SERVING OTHERS IS CONTAGIOUS AND THE MORE PEOPLE THAT WE CAN GET INVOLVED, THE MORE CHANCES WE WILL HAVE OF MAKING A DIFFERENCE.
SAINT MARY’S COMMITMENT TO SERVICE REQUIREMENT

1. REQUIREMENT: 60 HOURS OF SERVICE COMPLETED TO PARTICIPATE IN GRADUATION.

2. ALL HOURS DUE: END OF THE FIRST SEMESTER SENIOR YEAR.

CRITERIA FOR CREDIT

1. SERVICE MUST BE WITH A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION.

2. SERVICE MUST BE ON YOUR OWN TIME AND NOT DURING SCHOOL HOURS.

3. VERIFICATION OF HOURS: STUDENTS MAY COMPLETE HOURS AT ANY TIME. HOURS MUST BE TURNED IN WITH THEIR VERIFICATION FORM AND VOLUNTEER RECORD FORM WITHIN THE SEMESTER THAT THEY COMPLETED THE SERVICE.

4. STUDENTS MAY NOT VOLUNTEER FOR A PERSON OR A BUSINESS. (THERE MAY BE AN EXCEPTION TO THIS RULE)

5. THE STUDENT’S SERVICE AGENCY MUST BE ON THE LIST OF SUGGESTED AGENCIES. IF NOT, IT MUST BE PRE-APPROVED BY THE CHRISTIAN SERVICE COORDINATOR.

Christian Service is a requirement and a graduation pre-requisite and as such, Saint Mary’s maintains the right to review every situation.

FRESHMAN YEAR 10 HOURS
SOPHOMORE YEAR 20 HOURS
JUNIOR YEAR 20 HOURS
SENIOR YEAR 10 HOURS
JUST GET VOLUNTEERING!

Service Steps To Take To Get Involved in SERVICE!

1. Think about what you are interested in and start keeping track.

   FOR EXAMPLE.........
   • Are you volunteering at your elementary school as a coach or tutor?
   • Do you help out at your faith community, [at community events]?
   • Have you considered volunteering at a shelter or a soup kitchen?
   • Do you enjoy helping the elderly?
   • Do you love working with animals?
   • Get involved working with children!

   These are all examples of Support Service.
   To get started select 2-3 agencies that interest you, call the agencies’ volunteer coordinator and see if they currently need volunteers. Then set your date to do your service.

   • Have Service Verification forms signed
   • Turn in Service Verification forms in a timely manner
   • Turn in Volunteer Time Record

Any service activity with a non-profit organization can be credited to a student’s service record as long as the student follows the above directions. Service at agencies not on the recommended list must be pre-approved by the C.S. Coordinator.

Service Verifications forms and Volunteer Record forms are available at the CS office and can also be downloaded from the Christian Service website.

The CS office encourages all students to come by our office to receive assistance in finding a placement for service. We maintain an excellent database of local organizations and events.

   Our Open Door Office Hours:
   • Before School
   • At Break
   • Lunch Time
   • After school until 3pm

Students may make personal appointments with Mrs. Pijl
CHRISTIAN SERVICE CENTER

“Service is the result of hearing the message of hope; of growing in its understanding in community; and of sharing that growth with others.”  Author unknown

The Christian Service Requirement is an independent study process and thus it can often be an overlooked priority during the hectic pace of student lives. It is important to take the time to familiarize yourself with the requirement and to make a plan for how you will complete this commitment. Each student will complete the requirement in his or her own unique way, and own time, and the Christian Service Office is present to provide support.

What is the Christian Service Office all about?

The CS Coordinator will help each and every student complete his or her commitment to their service requirement.

The CS Coordinator will provide resources and referrals to students who need assistance in locating an appropriate service agency.

The CS Coordinator will help coach the students along the way, encouraging them to use their various talents when choosing their service activity.

The CS Coordinator will maintain all student service records and record credit to students when they submit their verification and volunteer forms.

The CS Coordinator is responsible for assisting students in upholding their commitment to service: Sending reminders and providing personal coaching, when needed.

“Do not lose courage in considering your own imperfections.”
St. Francis de Sales