

## *CCS Middle School Community Service*

**As a Catholic school, rooted in Gospel teachings and especially the life of Christ, it is important that students are taught how to serve others and actually live it out. Jesus emphasized service through his own actions and living this Gospel message is very important to the spiritual growth of the students.**

Each student in the middle school is asked to participate in **three hours of service**, not including the monthly ones through the school. These may come from a variety of sources, such as:

- Community organizations (soup kitchens, Salvation Army, SPCA, YMCA, Red Cross, Ronald McDonald House...)
- Church/places of worship (altar serving, proclaiming, playing music, coffee and donuts, religious education assistants, landscape days, church clean-up days, yard sales...). Church Bulletins are available at the school.
- School (cleaning chalkboards, helping a teacher, cleaning the lunch tables for a week, tutoring, Back to School night dinner, Back to School Picnic, Bingo, Spaghetti Dinner, Annual Auction, 5K Run, mailings through the development office ...)
- Out and about (picking up trash in your neighborhood, working with any parks division, cleaning trails...)
- One-time events and other (car washes to raise money for a cause, collecting canned food for a church pantry, lawn care for a neighbor, Relay for Life...)

The restrictions are as follows:

- Work in and around the house is considered part of his/her responsibility as a member of a family. The students and I have spent much time discussing that each person must do their part in a family to make it work.
- A service that meets and/or exceeds the required three hours and is repeated month after month will only count in full for one month. However, two hours of that repeated service may be counted for each month thereafter.
- The service has to take place in the month when it is recorded. Service hours may not be held over from one month to be counted in another month.
- A student may not be paid for the service in money. I was asked if it was okay to accept candy or even lasagna – by all means, yes!

Students must fill out a CCS Community Service Log, available on-line (it can be found by choosing "Parent Connection" on the left side menu and then "forms") or in Mrs. Nair's room by the given dates to receive credit, since this is part of their grade. Please use only the service log as it has all of the required information listed already.

Students should ask me if there is a question about a certain service opportunity.

Thank you very much.

Mrs. Nair