

Freshman ACTS: A Christian Through Service

Freshman Year Service Requirement

Guided by the mission of the Sisters of Mercy, the service program at Assumption High School has been in place for over 35 years. As a Catholic school, it is important that students live their faith by learning to “love one another” and answer the call to serve as Jesus did. A Christian Through Service (ACTS), our four-year service program, provides an opportunity for our students to develop a deeper understanding of peace and justice issues as well as different cultures and lifestyles. Assumption students learn to think globally and act locally as a part of the community, and it is an important means of living out Assumption’s mission of educating the whole student in a caring, Christian environment. ACTS has been designed to “grow” with the student throughout their 4 years at Assumption.

Freshmen ACTS focuses on learning about service opportunities in our communities. Freshmen must complete a minimum of 5 hours of service and a service reflection by April 2022. They may complete these hours during the summer before their freshmen year as well as during the school year. For their Freshmen ACTS, a wide variety of service projects are accepted. Service can include but is not limited to helping neighbors, serving for a parish, volunteering at church events, coaching, volunteering at Assumption open house, etc. Service can also include volunteering with the poor, marginalized, elderly, or disabled, and working with agencies that support them (i.e. Dare to Care, St. Vincent de Paul Open Hand Kitchen) as well as environmental agencies such as Blackacre and Olmsted Parks. No service that is volunteering for your own family, grandparents, aunts, uncles, etc. will be accepted. All 5 hours do not need to be with the same agency or doing the same activity; for example, students can choose to do 2 hours of service through their parish, 1 at Assumption and 2 hours of service through an agency. Service opportunities will be available at various times during the school year. Students will also complete a 1-hour service project in their theology class in the fall.

Freshmen will be taught how to document these hours on our online service tracking site, MobileServe, during their first semester. In MobileServe, students enter an email address of a supervisor who can verify they completed the hours. Hours will count toward their second semester theology grade. If hours are completed during the summer, please note the date, hours, and the email of a supervisor who can verify service hours, and students will enter them in MobileServe in the fall.

Service is more than a specific experience of helping someone. It is also an important opportunity to learn and grow – to learn more about who we are as people, what our place is in society, what our talents are, how we might best use these talents. To truly benefit from service, it is important to reflect on your experiences. For these reasons, students are asked to write one service reflection which covers all their service experience and submit it to their theology teacher.

Post-service, please take time to answer these reflection questions in complete sentences:

What was your service?

Who did you work with?

What talents did you share?

What did you learn?

Identify one thing you might do differently to improve the experience or yourself.

Please share any other important thoughts related to your service.

The second semester theology teacher will give instructions on how to turn in this reflection document in the spring.

**ASSUMPTION HIGH SCHOOL
FRESHMEN ACTS SERVICE PROGRAM
TIME SHEET**

STUDENT NAME: _____ **CLASS OF:** _____

STUDENTS:						
YOU WILL ENTER THESE HOURS IN AN ONLINE SERVICE TRACKING SITE IN THE FALL. PLEASE LET THE PERSON WHO CAN VERIFY YOUR SERVICE KNOW TO EXPECT AN EMAIL FROM <u>MOBILESERVE</u> IN THE FALL. HOURS CANNOT BE VERIFIED BY A FAMILY MEMBER.						
-	<u>AGENCY/ SERVICE</u>	<u>EXPLANATION OF SERVICE WORK</u>	<u>NAME OF PERSON WHO CAN VERIFY HOURS</u>	<u>EMAIL ADDRESS OF PERSON WHO CAN VERIFY HOURS</u>	<u>SERVICE DATE</u>	<u>NUMBER OF HOURS</u>
Ex:	Salvation Army	Served dinner to people experiencing homelessness	Jane Doe	Janedoe@salvationarmy.com	7/11/2020	2
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						
8						

If you have any concerns, questions, or if you are in doubt on whether a service project is acceptable, please contact the Service Learning Director, Katelyn Moore, at

Katelyn.moore@ahsrockets.org