



TRADITION.
INNOVATION.
EXCELLENCE.

2022-2023

WORKS OF MERCY SERVICE PROGRAM

GRADE 8

As Christians, we are all called to serve one another each and every day. This program will help students continue to learn about service. Requirements will include helping within their homes, school/parish and branching out within our community. It is our goal to teach the students that through service we can begin a path for a new way of life, following in Jesus' footsteps and helping people, not just with those we know, but also on a global level. In addition this program will prepare students for their journey towards receiving the Holy Spirit at Confirmation by learning and practicing the Works of Mercy that Jesus taught us. It is important to understand that any student receiving their confirmation should contact their parish to find out the expectations and requirements to receive this sacrament within that parish. Some may have additional expectations that must be met outside the scope of the requirements of Providence Heights Alpha School.

Eighth grade will be required to do service in each of the following areas per the specifications listed below. For a home, school/parish or community service project to be truly in the spirit of giving to others the students should not be compensated with money, gifts or parties of any kind. Please refer to the examples below for further clarification.

Final grades for all service hours will be given during the 3rd quarter. Specific dates will be given at the beginning of the school year.



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1. HOME

Students perform service by helping their family, relatives, neighbors and friends. An example may be helping a grandparent with a task or babysitting a brother or sister for your parents or helping a neighbor to shovel their driveway. There is no required time for each activity. These services should not include jobs that are already required and should be something that is done during the students “free” time. Each service can be listed on the attached form labeled “HOME” along with a parent signature verifying that they have performed the service listed. Dates and times are not required for this form of service.

<i>Grade</i>	<i># of Services to be Performed</i>	<i>Signature Required</i>	<i>Dates & Times Required</i>
8	15 services	yes	no

Additional ideas for HOME service:

- Rake leaves, cut grass, wash dishes, help prepare meals, vacuum, and/or do other household chores without being asked
- Organize a family picnic or outing
- Visit or call relatives you haven’t talked to or seen in a while
- Lead family meal prayers for a week...or a month!
- Leave cheerful notes/cards/pictures for parents and siblings to brighten their day
- Tutor or read to younger brothers or sisters



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8th Grade HOME SERVICE

Student Name _____

Service # 1 Service- _____

What I did - _____

Signature of parent - _____

Service # 2 Service- _____

What I did - _____

Signature of parent - _____

Service # 3 Service- _____

What I did - _____

Signature of parent - _____



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INNOVATION.
EXCELLENCE.

Service # 4 Service- _____

What I did - _____

Signature of parent - _____

Service # 5 Service- _____

What I did - _____

Signature of parent - _____

Service # 6 Service- _____

What I did - _____

Signature of parent - _____

Service # 7 Service- _____

What I did - _____

Signature of parent - _____



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INNOVATION.
EXCELLENCE.

Service # 8 Service- _____

What I did - _____

Signature of parent - _____

Service # 9 Service- _____

What I did - _____

Signature of parent - _____

Service # 10 Service- _____

What I did - _____

Signature of parent - _____

Service # 11 Service- _____

What I did - _____

Signature of parent - _____



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INNOVATION.
EXCELLENCE.

Service # 12 Service- _____

What I did - _____

Signature of parent - _____

Service # 13 Service- _____

What I did - _____

Signature of parent - _____

Service # 14 Service- _____

What I did - _____

Signature of parent - _____

Service # 15 Service- _____

What I did - _____

Signature of parent - _____



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EXCELLENCE.

2. SCHOOL/PARISH

Students perform service by volunteering at school or at their parish. This includes any activity, sporting event or function that relates to Providence Heights Alpha School, the Sisters of Divine Providence and your local parish as long as it is not completed during school time and is not for the students benefit. Some examples of these service hours could include being a tour guide at an open house, helping out at the Sisters annual craft show, assisting a coach for an afterschool sport and altar serving. Each service can be listed on the attached form labeled "SCHOOL/PARISH" along with an adult signature verifying that they have performed the service listed and a description of what service they performed. Dates and times are required for this form of service and each service should be different.

<i>Grade</i>	<i># of Hours/Activities to be Performed</i>	<i>Signature Required</i>	<i>Dates & Times Required</i>
8	5 hours (5 activities)	yes	yes

Additional ideas for SCHOOL/PARISH service

- Helping afterschool at APEX
- Visiting with the Sisters in the annex
- Making cards or cookies for the Sisters
- Working at the concession stand at Alpha sporting events (no more than 2 students at the same time)
- Assist with parish activities like the picnic and Fish Fry
- Welcome new parishioners with cards, cookies, etc.
- Baby-sit for parish functions and during mass
- Be a greeter, altar server
- Help clean up around church and school and other parish property
- Help decorate and/or clean church for different seasons



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SCHOOL/PARISH SERVICE

Student Name _____

Service # 1 Service- _____

Description of Service - _____

Date - _____

Time - _____

Signature of event coordinator - _____

Service # 2 Service- _____

Description of Service - _____

Date - _____

Time - _____

Signature of event coordinator - _____



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INNOVATION.
EXCELLENCE.

Service # 3 Service- _____

Description of Service - _____

Date - _____

Time - _____

Signature of event coordinator - _____

Service # 4 Service- _____

Description of Service - _____

Date - _____

Time - _____

Signature of event coordinator - _____



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EXCELLENCE.

Service # 5 Service- _____

Description of Service - _____

Date - _____

Time - _____

Signature of event coordinator - _____



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EXCELLENCE.

3. COMMUNITY

Students perform service by dedicating time to their community helping those locally and/or globally. The work that is done for this category must benefit the **poor** in some capacity – those who are poor materially, physically, emotionally or spiritually. This service can be done through your parish as long as it is benefitting an independent organization and not directly for the parish. Each service can be listed on the attached form labeled “COMMUNITY” with explanations and reflections of the service they performed along with an adult signature verifying that they have performed the service. Dates and times are required for this form of service. Please make sure to check with each organization on their signature process and to get information about specific requirements **before** beginning your service. Some organizations require you to fill out forms prior to completing your service in order to obtain signatures or may require an adult to accompany the student depending on the activity.

Grade	# of Hours to be Performed	Signature Required	Dates & Times Required	3 Paragraphs for each Service Required
8	6 hours (3-6 activities)	yes	yes	yes

To further define an acceptable community service project the students should reflect on the following questions.

- Why did you choose this organization or individual to serve?
- Is the work benefitting the poor in some capacity, either materially, physically, emotionally or spiritually? Describe the service and include in what way you are benefitting the poor.
- How do you think your participation will affect those served?

Each paragraph written must be at least 5-6 complete sentences.



TRADITION.
INNOVATION.
EXCELLENCE.

If a student can respond to these questions after careful reflection and well thought out answers then the community service project is acceptable. If they are still unsure they should write their answers in paragraph form and the religion teacher will discuss it with the student. The teacher will have the final authority on whether a service project is acceptable or not regardless of the students' completion of the activity.

There are many opportunities to serve within the community. Many parishes offer organized events to serve people outside their parish that are in need such as, children, the homeless and the elderly. Please check your parish bulletin for ideas and events if you need some help getting started. Below are some additional places you could explore on your own to serve others.

World Vision

210 Overlook Drive
Sewickley, PA 15143
412-749-1800

North Hills Community Outreach

1975 Ferguson Road
Allison Park, PA 15101
412-487-6316

Vincentian Home

111 Perrymont Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15237
412-366-5600

Global Links

700 Trumbull Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15205
412-361-3424



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COMMUNITY SERVICE

8th GRADE

Student Name _____

Service # 1 - _____

Date - _____

Time - _____

Signature of event coordinator - _____

(8th graders –please detach and include the top portion in your journals for signature verification -

You will answer the following questions below in your journal for each community service project completed)

Describe the organization/charity you chose to serve and why you chose them.
What did you do to help serve this organization?

How is the work you are doing serving the poor? How will it affect their lives? Are you helping them materially, physically, emotionally or spiritually?

Take some time to reflect and describe the impact this service has had on you and write about it. Would you choose to help this organization again? Why or why not?



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INNOVATION.
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COMMUNITY SERVICE

8th GRADE

Student Name _____

Service # 2 - _____

Date - _____

Time - _____

Signature of event coordinator - _____

(8th graders –please detach and include the top portion in your journals for signature verification -

You will answer the following questions below in your journal for each community service project completed)

Describe the organization/charity you chose to serve and why you chose them.
What did you do to help serve this organization?

How is the work you are doing serving the poor? How will it affect their lives? Are you helping them materially, physically, emotionally or spiritually?

Take some time to reflect and describe the impact this service has had on you and write about it. Would you choose to help this organization again? Why or why not?



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EXCELLENCE.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

8th GRADE

Student Name _____

Service # 3 - _____

Date - _____

Time - _____

Signature of event coordinator - _____

(8th graders –please detach and include the top portion in your journals for signature verification -

You will answer the following questions below in your journal for each community service project completed)

Describe the organization/charity you chose to serve and why you chose them.
What did you do to help serve this organization?

How is the work you are doing serving the poor? How will it affect their lives? Are you helping them materially, physically, emotionally or spiritually?

Take some time to reflect and describe the impact this service has had on you and write about it. Would you choose to help this organization again? Why or why not?



TRADITION.
INNOVATION.
EXCELLENCE.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

8th GRADE

Student Name _____

Service #4 (if needed) - _____

Date - _____

Time - _____

Signature of event coordinator - _____

(8th graders –please detach and include the top portion in your journals for signature verification -

You will answer the following questions below in your journal for each community service project completed)

Describe the organization/charity you chose to serve and why you chose them.
What did you do to help serve this organization?

How is the work you are doing serving the poor? How will it affect their lives? Are you helping them materially, physically, emotionally or spiritually?

Take some time to reflect and describe the impact this service has had on you and write about it. Would you choose to help this organization again? Why or why not?



TRADITION.
INNOVATION.
EXCELLENCE.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

8th GRADE

Student Name _____

Service #5 (if needed) - _____

Date - _____

Time - _____

Signature of event coordinator - _____

(8th graders –please detach and include the top portion in your journals for signature verification -

You will answer the following questions below in your journal for each community service project completed)

Describe the organization/charity you chose to serve and why you chose them.
What did you do to help serve this organization?

How is the work you are doing serving the poor? How will it affect their lives? Are you helping them materially, physically, emotionally or spiritually?

Take some time to reflect and describe the impact this service has had on you and write about it. Would you choose to help this organization again? Why or why not?



TRADITION.
INNOVATION.
EXCELLENCE.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

8th GRADE

Student Name _____

Service #6 (if needed) - _____

Date - _____

Time - _____

Signature of event coordinator - _____

(8th graders –please detach and include the top portion in your journals for signature verification -

You will answer the following questions below in your journal for each community service project completed)

Describe the organization/charity you chose to serve and why you chose them.
What did you do to help serve this organization?

How is the work you are doing serving the poor? How will it affect their lives? Are you helping them materially, physically, emotionally or spiritually?

Take some time to reflect and describe the impact this service has had on you and write about it. Would you choose to help this organization again? Why or why not?



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INNOVATION.
EXCELLENCE.

ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY SERVICE (optional)

Student Name _____

Service Title - _____

Service you performed - _____

Date - _____

Time - _____

Signature of event coordinator - _____

Service Title - _____

Service you performed - _____

Date - _____

Time - _____

Signature of event coordinator - _____



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INNOVATION.
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8th GRADE JOURNAL PROJECT

After you do your service and have filled out the Works of Mercy Service papers you will create a journal that documents the service that you have completed. You will share your journal with the class.

***PLEASE PRINT THE 8TH GRADE HOME SERVICE FORMS AND THE SCHOOL /PARISH SERVICE FORMS TO COMPLETE AND INCLUDE IN YOUR JOURNAL. EACH PACK SHOULD BE NEAT, IN ORDER AND STAPELED. COMMUNITY FORMS CAN BE PRINTED, CUT OUT AND ATTACHED TO THE CORRESPONDING JOURNAL PAGES. RUBRICS SHOULD ALSO BE PRINTED AND YOUR NAME ADDED BEFORE INCLUDING IT IN THE BACK OF YOUR JOURNAL.**

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE JOURNAL:

1. HOME service forms: These pages can be printed out from the packet, stapled and added to your journal in either a plastic sleeve or a pocket in the back your journal.
2. SCHOOL/PARISH forms: These pages can be printed out from the packet and added to your journal in either a plastic sleeve or a pocket in the back of your journal.
3. The rubric should be printed out and you should add your name and include it in the back of your journal.
4. Cover page which includes:
 - Your name
 - The title "Service Projects"
 - The school year "2021-2022"
 - Decorations!!!!!!!!!!
5. Two to four (2-4) pages in the journal should represent **ONE** of your COMMUNITY SERVICE projects. The **minimum** community services pages will be 6 in total.
6. **TAGBOARD/CONSTRUCTION PAPER/SCRAPBOOK PAPER** should be used – **NO SMALLER THAN 8 ½ " X 11"**
7. Each page should be in a **PLASTIC SLEEVE**
8. The book should be bound together in a 3 ring binder or scrapbook



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EXCELLENCE.

EACH COMMUNITY SERVICE IN THE JOURNAL SHOULD INCLUDE:

- A picture of you performing the service
- 1 bible quote of your choice should be included on **each** 2-4 page spread of your journal pages that corresponds with the service that you completed
- Answers to the following questions from your Works of Mercy Program packet for each Community service performed. (*Answers should be typed and in paragraph form 5-6 sentences each*)
 1. **Describe the organization/charity you chose to serve and why you chose them. What did you do to help serve this organization?**
 2. **How is the work you are doing serving the poor? How will it affect their lives? Are you helping them materially, physically, emotionally or spiritually?**
 3. **Take some time to reflect and describe the impact this service has had on you and write about it. Would you choose to help this organization again? Why or why not?**
- Dates and times of when you completed the service and a signature of the adult who was in charge of or who coordinated the service (include the top portion from the COMMUNITY SERVICE sheet)
- Decorations making **each** page colorful and unified

PLEASE be neat, organized and creative!!!