

# MARY QUEEN OF PEACE • Christian Service Program

## Show Others U Love!



## Our Mission

We hope to inspire students in our MQP family to participate in Christian Service activities throughout the year. We wish for them to experience the wonderful joy that comes from giving and making a difference, so they will develop a life-long love of service to others. We will assist the students and families in achieving their Christian Service goals by providing ideas and opportunities to reach out to others through service.

## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

**Q: Is participation in the program mandatory?**

**A:** No. However, it is greatly encouraged!

**Q: Why participate?**

**A:** There are many reasons to participate in the program:

- to expose students to a wide variety of service activities, thereby letting them discover the types of activities they enjoy doing the most
- to grow in their faith and love of service
- to experience the joy of giving, and the sense of reward and fulfillment that accompanies it
- to learn that all good deeds, no matter how small, change our world and make a difference
- to learn selflessness
- to say "Yes!" to God's call

**Q: How many hours does my child need to earn the year-end Christian Service Award?**

**Pre K and K:** 3 hours

**1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade:** 5 hours

**3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade:** 10 hours

**5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade:** 15 hours

**7<sup>th</sup> grade:** 20 hours

**Q: What is the year-end Christian Service award?**

**A:** Students completing the required number of hours will be recognized after the final Christian Service Mass. Each name will be announced and each student will come to the altar to receive a certificate.

**Q: How can my child earn hours?**

**A:** Countless ways! Please refer to the suggestion list that can be found at: [www.maryqueenofpeace.org/christian-service/home](http://www.maryqueenofpeace.org/christian-service/home). Also included are:

- **Quarterly group service activities.** Watch for information in the Cougar Connection weekly newsletter.
- **Monthly worksheets.** Students can earn **10 minutes** for each sheet completed and turned in to their teacher.
- **MQP activities.** Working/helping with various events throughout the year such as the Back to School Bingo, Lenten Fish Fry and other fundraising events.
- **Jump Start on Service.** This is a wonderful opportunity for the students to earn service hour credit during the last slow week of the year – during the school day! This day is meant to give students a "Jump Start" towards their service hour goal for the *following* school year. One hour can be earned by each participating student.

**Q: What is the Christian Service Pledge, and when is it completed?**

**A:** The Pledge will be completed during class in the month of September. It is designed to get the students thinking and becoming excited about the various types of service activities they would like to do throughout the upcoming year. All Pledge worksheets will be sent home after the October service Mass.

**Q: What are the monthly service worksheets and when will I receive them?**

**A:** These monthly themed worksheets will be sent home with your child at the beginning of each month, *beginning in October*. The monthly sheets will contain:

- The monthly theme
- 3 sections:
  - *STUDY IT!* A bible connection/reflection relating to the monthly theme
  - *PRAY IT!* A prayer related to the monthly theme
  - *LIVE IT!* Service suggestions related to the monthly theme
- A pledge on how the student plans on serving that month
- Information on any upcoming community or parish based service opportunities
- An age appropriate activity

**Q: What does my child do after completing the monthly worksheet?**

**A:** Turn it in to their homeroom teacher. The service committee will then collect all sheets to be included in a drawing for a prize at the monthly Christian Service Monday morning assembly. Also, remember to log 10 minutes on your child's service log for each worksheet completed.

**Q: Can sheets be turned in late?**

**A:** Yes. They can be turned in at anytime to the homeroom teacher and will be included in the upcoming month's drawing. There is an end of the year deadline for all sheets.

**Q: What is the service Mass?**

**A:** This Mass is usually the first Wednesday of each month, and is noted on the MQP calendar. Students are encouraged to bring a non perishable food item for the *Feed The Hungry* collection. Also, the religious education coordinator will briefly speak about that month's service theme prior to the beginning of Mass.

**Q: Are there any incentives?**

**A:** Yes! Program incentives are:

- There will be a drawing for a small prize each month at the Monday morning service assembly. All worksheets turned in the month prior will be included.
- All students who achieved their grade level goal will be recognized with a certificate at the end of year.
- At the end of the year, there will be a treat for all the students who met their grade level goal!

**Q: Who keeps track of service hours? Where?**

**A:** Parents/students are responsible for documenting all service time. Participation should be documented on a *Mary Queen Of Peace Church Christian Service Record*. These will be sent home in September. They may also be picked up at the school office or found online at:

[www.maryqueenofpeace.org/christianservice/home](http://www.maryqueenofpeace.org/christianservice/home)

**Q: Who should sign my child's service log, and is it required?**

**A:** A signature is required by the person overseeing the service activity.

**Q: Who do I contact if I have questions?**

**A:** Dana Stiller, Director of Christian Formation: [dstiller@maryqueenofpeace.org](mailto:dstiller@maryqueenofpeace.org)