

# **Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School**

## **Community Service Program**



*“Whatsoever you do for the least  
of my brothers and sisters you do for me.  
Matthew 25:40*

### **Theology of Service**

**The mission of the Catholic Church is to spread the Good News of Jesus Christ. This includes being a person who understands and recognizes the action of God, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit in worship celebrations, most especially the Eucharist; in the Holy Word of God; and in living in support, love and service to all of creation.**

**It is within the Gospel framework that all students are called to be active disciples in the school, parish, local and global communities. Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School has built a legacy on students using their gifts and talents to answer God's call.**

**The goal of the Church is to form joyful and willing disciples of Jesus Christ, thereby building up the Church, the Body of Christ, by caring for all the children of God as required by the Gospel. It is in serving others by sacrificing personal needs rather than in giving from our excesses that disciples can be called "good stewards" of God's creation.**

*"In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ be united in the same mind  
and in the same purpose."*

1 Corinthians 1:10

## **Program Requirements**

- A minimum of 25 hours for each academic year is required by Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School. It is necessary to complete the hours to maintain the units of credit for graduation.
- Students must freely give time and talent and not accept money.
- Students must submit a completed and signed form for each group or facility where the service was performed. Pre-authorization is required for parents to sign forms.
- Students must also submit a written reflection, using the format given by the school. The reflection must be stapled to the forms verifying the completed service hours. Incomplete forms or reflections will be returned and remain undocumented until they are completed and resubmitted.
- Forms and reflection directions are outside the Campus Ministry Office and in the Main Office.
- All forms and reflections must be submitted by Semester One Exams in January. Students who do not meet this deadline are placed on the school ineligibility list as defined in the handbook.

# **SERVICE: A WAY OF LIFE**

## **Recommendations**

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Students should always consider exceeding the annual 25 minimum hour requirement and set a goal for more hours each year. It is also good to broaden the understanding of what is necessary service by completing the hours in different categories, such as a parish church or school, community social service agencies, and places that can offer interaction with people of different ages.

The hope is that all students are becoming people of service and are cheerfully engaging themselves in a variety of opportunities because they have a Christian attitude and not because they are meeting requirements. Nor do they have to “Like” what they are doing. The goal is to be a servant as Jesus: to answer the call to meet the needs of people.

Eleventh and twelfth grade students should always keep in mind that as much diversification as possible can also help them with discernment for college.



## **SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES**

Students receive information about special opportunities during the school year about new organizations those that have been affiliated with the Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic Service Program.

Written information and sign-up sheets are often posted outside the Campus Ministry Office and the Student Union bulletin boards, and are announced by teachers and club moderators.

## **SUMMER SERVICE HOURS**

It is wonderful that students have shared their time and talent to fulfill service requirements during these summer months. There are many days and ways after school begins that hours can be completed by the deadline. Please do not feel that all service hours must be finished by the first day of classes in August.

Students who begin the school year with 25 hours completed feel as if they do not have to join in any other service activity during the upcoming months. Engaging in service time is to foster an attitude and way of life as a servant to all of God’s Children. Added hours of service are offered as seasonal all-school projects.

## SERVICE POSSIBILITIES

### PARISH OR CHURCH OF MEMBERSHIP

Students should make every effort to serve their parish or church with at least 5 to 10 hours. Please speak with your Pastor, DRE, Youth Minister or Confirmation Director.

### LOCAL COMMUNITY

The following lists are suggested places and facilities that invite and need community service volunteers. Many are also online. It is best to have a personal contact and reference. Students should call ahead and ask for the Volunteer Service Coordinator or Activities Director for information. They may have to complete some training. A comprehensive list is in the GUIDE TO HUMAN SERVICES in the Verizon telephone book. Many of the agencies do provide overlapping services.

#### Children and Youth

Begin With Us Childcare 703 Grant Ave, Altoona 941-0606, Big Brothers/Big Sisters 891 ARC of Blair County: 431 Jackson Ave., 946-1011 Blair County Adult Center for Exceptional Learning: 2900 Broad Ave., Altoona 944-8179 Blindness and Visual Services: 300 Fifth Ave., Altoona 944-2021 Blair County Mental Retardation Services: 500 Lkmt. Park Blvd., 946-3657, 942-7754 Blair County Literacy Council: 1600 5<sup>th</sup> Ave., Altoona 946-1544

The Quaint Children's Museum, SKILLS of Central PA: 2101 Eighth Ave., Altoona, 949-4800 Special Olympics: 942-7754 Miracle League United Cerebral Palsy Respite 946-4036

#### Veterans and the Elderly

Veteran's Home: 915 Hickory St., Hldys 696-4500 Altoona Center for Nursing Care: 1020 Green Ave., Altoona 946-2700 Bellmeade Manor: Bellmeade 942-2423 Blair Senior Services: 12<sup>th</sup> Ave., Altoona 946-1235 Epworth Manor: Tyrone 684-0320 Garvey Manor: 928 S. Logan Blvd., Hldys 695-5571, Hillview Convalescent Home: 946-0471 Outlook Point: Duncs 695-8425 St. Leonard's: 601 N. Montgomery St., Hldys. 695-9581 Lutheran Home: 916 Hickory St Street, Hldys 696-4527 St. Vincent de Paul Valley View Nursing Home: 301 Valley View Blvd., 944-0845 Veterans Affairs Nursing Centers: 2907 Pl. Val Blvd., Altoona 943-8164 Hollidaysburg 696-5371

#### People of Disabilities

ARC of Blair County: 431 Jackson Ave., 946-1011 Blair County Adult Center for Exceptional Learning: 2900 Broad Ave., Altoona 944-8179 Blindness and Visual Services: 300 Fifth Ave., Altoona 944-2021 Blair County Mental Retardation Services: 500 Lkmt. Park Blvd., 946-3657, 942-7754 Blair County Literacy Council: 1600 5<sup>th</sup> Ave., Altoona 946-1544 SKILLS of Central

PA: 2101 Eighth Ave., Altoona, 949-4800 Special Olympics: 942-7754 Miracle League United Cerebral Palsy Respite 946-4036

### **Pro-Life**

Precious Life 944-2669 Birthright 943-8185 Catholic Social Services 944-9388

### **Medical Facilities**

Altoona Regional Health Systems: Cindy Skupien 946-2151 Health South Rehabilitation Hospital: 2005 Val View Blvd., Altoona 944-3535 Van Zandt Veterans Hospital: Pleasant Valley Blvd., Altoona 943-8164 ext 714

### **Family and Other**

Habitat for Humanity: 302 E. Wopson. Ave., Altoona 944-3219 or 942-4888 Humane Society Thrift Shop 944-3072 St. Vincent DePaul Society: 2223 Eighth Ave., Altoona, 695-8773 Altoona Food Bank 942-8415 WCA 944-8119



### **Bishop Guilfoyle Catholic High School Campus Ministry**

Jeanne Thompson, Campus Minister  
2400 Pleasant Valley Blvd.  
Altoona, PA 16602  
[www.bishopguilfoyle.org](http://www.bishopguilfoyle.org)  
Phone: (814) 944-4014 Fax (814) 8695  
Email: [thompson.jeanne@daj.k12.pa.us](mailto:thompson.jeanne@daj.k12.pa.us)