Bishop Neumann SERVICE PROGRAM

A requirement of the religion department for grades nine through twelve is volunteer service. This requirement is based on the directive in the National Catechetical Directory, which states, "a rounded view of the Church requires an understanding both of its inner life and of its ministry of service to society." It further says, "Catechesis concerning justice, mercy, and peace should be part of the catechetical process. It should include efforts to motivate people to act on behalf of these values" (p. 95).

Each year, students in these grades are expected to spend a minimum of 15 hours in a Christian service program toward a total of 60 hours before graduation. Only 15 hours may be applied toward the total required each year. Off-campus service must be done outside of school hours, except for seniors doing service during open campus. Each year, a minimum of 5 hours must be completed outside of Bishop Neumann. To encourage a deeper reflection and appreciation for the value of service for others, the service program will be a part of the student's religion class grade. Service hours are due by May 1st of each school year. Service hours must be turned in at the main office or campus ministry office. Freshmen, sophomores, and juniors must complete their service hours for the school year before the beginning of the next school year or they are not able to participate in any extracurriculars until they are made up. Seniors must have all service hours completed by March 1st or service will be assigned by the campus minister. If service hours are not completed, seniors may not participate in the graduation activities. Some suggestions of the kinds of things students may do for service hours are listed below. Service cannot be done for your parents, cannot be done for profit organizations, and cannot be done for a business/organization at which a student is also employed.

1. Service to the elderly, disabled, unborn, sick, or needy, such as:
    a. Taking part in the yearly pro-life march in Lincoln in January.
    b. Other projects on behalf of the unborn (please check ahead of time).
    c. Donating blood.
    d. Providing transportation or other services such as mowing lawns, scooping snow, cleaning, etc., without pay for the elderly (over 65) or the disabled.
    e. Visiting or providing entertainment or assistance to the elderly.
2. Service in the parish community or to the pastor:
    a. Teaching in the parish CCD program.
    b. Assisting a teacher in the parish CCD program.
    c. Working at church bazaars, dinners, or other projects.

    d. Cleaning parish church, hall, school, or rectory without pay.
    e. Caring for the church or cemetery grounds without pay.
    f. Any clerical or other service to the pastor or assistant pastor.
3. Service to the school or community:
    a. Volunteer work needed and supervised by the office.
    b. Assistance to the maintenance employee (cleaning, repairs, and other odd jobs approved by the service program coordinator).
    c. Working as a teacher aide or library assistant (typing, filing, fixing bulletin boards, tutoring, helping with end-of-year inventory, etc.). No service will be given when a student is assigned to a class as an aide for credit.
    d. Assisting in athletic programs at Neumann (working as student manager, videotaping games, taking statistics, keeping record books, etc.).
    e. Assisting, coaching, officiating, etc., in elementary athletic programs without pay.
    f. Volunteering for a non-profit community organization. The mission of this non-profit organization must not be contrary to the Gospel and Catholic Faith.
4. Other:
    a. Working on a TEC (Teens Encounter Christ) Wheat Crew (15 hours per weekend).
    b. Working at SKY Camp as a counselor (15 hours).
    c. Working at any camp as a counselor (15 hours).
    d. Bishop Neumann mission trip (15 hours).
    e. Villa Marie Service Day (8 hours).