

## HOLY CROSS CHRISTIAN SERVICE PROGRAM

**PHILOSOPHY:** As a Catholic school, Holy Cross High School is committed to help each student form a basic understanding of his/her faith. An integral part of our faith is to bring the message of Jesus to others through our words and through our actions. Therefore, As part of our religion program, each student is required to complete a given number of Christian service hours. This requirement is designed to afford you the opportunity to put your faith into action, thereby developing and entering into a deeper and fuller relationship with God. Not only will you experience God in your generous endeavors, but you will become instruments of Jesus' love. There is ample support for this philosophy throughout scripture. After washing the feet of His companions Jesus said "As I have done, so you must do." (John 3:15) Jesus demonstrated His message through the power of his own example. You too are called to bring this message to the world. Each of us possesses unique gifts instilled in us by God. The challenge is to find a project or organization that best suits our gifts and talents. Who are we is God's gift to us. What we become is our gift back to God!

**REQUIREMENTS:** Each student is required to complete a minimum number of Christian Service Hours as part of his/her religion grade. Freshmen need to complete a minimum of 10 hours, Sophomores 20 hours, Juniors 30 hours, and Seniors 40 hours. However, it is hoped that you will enjoy and learn from your experiences and continue to volunteer beyond this required number of hours. At least one fourth of the total hours are due by the end of each quarter. **All service hours must be completed by May 11, 2012.** Failure to complete all service hours by May 11, 2012, will be required to attend summer service school at an additional cost in order to return to Holy Cross High School the next year. Any service/volunteer activity from May 15, 2011 to May 11, 2012 will count for the current school year. If you have questions regarding the requirements please contact Mrs. Listerman or your religion teacher for clarification.

**HOW TO COMPLETE HOURS:** Attached you will find a list of agencies and organizations that have been approved for your to perform service. This is just a list of possible agencies. You may choose from this approved list to complete your service hours, or see Mrs. Listerman for approval of any organization that does not appear on this list. **At least 50%** of the total number of required hours must come from agencies on this list or other non-profit agencies otherwise approved by Mrs. Listerman. All hours can be completed at a single non-profit agency or can be completed utilizing a variety of agencies. **The key item is that the service be completed at a not for profit agency.**

**No more than 50% of the Christian Service requirement can be completed by using the community of Holy Cross High School.** Service to family will not be accepted as service hours because these hours are viewed as Christian family responsibility. This service program is designed to challenge each student to go beyond their family to perform Christian Service. Special circumstances may alter this policy; see Mrs. Listerman for any exceptions or necessary changes.