

Christian Service Policy

As stated in the 2021-2022 Student Handbook

2.4.1 Purpose.

Service is an integral part of the Christian life. The service requirement for students is designed to reflect the teachings of Christ, who came not to be served but to serve. His teachings reveal God's compassion and special concern for those suffering from poverty, persecution, or neglect:

The King will say to those at his right hand, "Come, O blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me." Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink?" And the king will answer them, "Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of my brothers and sisters, you did it to me." Matthew 25:34

The purpose of the service requirement is to emphasize a Christ-like concern for the poor and suffering. A **service hour system** has been devised to promote and encourage service experiences in which students have direct contact with people in need. The Director of Student Life will organize student groups to assist service organizations in the Fort Myers area. Parents interested in volunteering are invited to contact the Director of Student Life.

2.4.2 Guidelines

A. Requirements

Freshmen and sophomore students are required to complete a minimum of 20 documented service hours per year. Junior and senior students are required to complete a minimum of 30 documented service hours per year. Senior students must turn in service points no later than March 4, 2022. Freshmen, Sophomore, and Junior students need to turn in completed service on or before April 29, 2022. Failure to turn in completed hours on the specified dates will result in disciplinary action, co-curricular activities will be limited and exam passes withheld until completed. Seniors who do not have their completed service hours in by April 2, 2022 will be barred from senior privileges and events including Grad Bash and Prom until completed. Service performed after May 15, 2022 may be counted toward requirements for the following school year. **Hours exceeding the minimum requirement will not apply to the next school year.** However, students may turn in more than the required amount if they would like them recorded.

Service point due dates are as follows:

- a. Seniors - March 4, 2022 (30 hours)**
- b. Juniors – April 29, 2022 (30 hours)**
- c. Freshmen - Sophomores – April 29, 2022 (20 hours)**

B. Hours

Students will be granted credit for hours according to the length of the service and location completed. The Director of Student Life determines which locations are appropriate for service. The Corporal Works of Mercy include feeding the hungry, giving drink to the thirsty, clothing the naked, sheltering the homeless, visiting the sick, visiting those in prison, and burying the dead.

C. Approval of Service Sites

All service should be completed off of the pre-approved location list or approved by the Director of Student Life before service is performed to ensure agreement exists regarding the nature of the service and the hours will be awarded as Christian Service.

Lists of pre-approved and service project sites are available from Theology teachers and the Director of Student Life. Service not listed as pre-approved should not be assumed to fulfill the requirement.

Pre-approved locations:

All Diocese of Venice Parishes and Schools
Boys/Girls Club- [239-334-1886](tel:239-334-1886)
Builders Care- [239-938-0056](tel:239-938-0056)
Calusa Nature Center- [239-275-3435](tel:239-275-3435)
Catholic Charities- (AFCAAM-[239-461-0233](tel:239-461-0233) (After School Tutoring)
Catholic Charities-Casa Maria Soup Kitchen-[239-657-6242](tel:239-657-6242) (Immokalee)
Children's Home Society- [239-334-0222](tel:239-334-0222)
Clare House-After School Tutoring-[239-334-2234](tel:239-334-2234)*
Coalition of Immokalee Workers- [239-657-8311](tel:239-657-8311)
ECHO- (Educational Concerns for Hunger Organization) [239-543-3246](tel:239-543-3246)
Habitat for Humanity- [239-652-0434](tel:239-652-0434) (Paula) www.habitat4humanity.org
Harlem Heights Organization / St. Columbkille – 239-489-3973 (Miriam Ortiz)
Harry Chapin Food Bank- [239-334-7007](tel:239-334-7007)
Hope Hospice/ Thrift store- [239-652-1114](tel:239-652-1114)
Humane Society of Lee Co.- [239-332-0364](tel:239-332-0364)
LARC- [239-334-6285](tel:239-334-6285) x 229
Lee Memorial Hospital- [239-343-2388](tel:239-343-2388) / www.volunteerlee.org
Lee Health Park – 239-343-5055
Lifeline Family Center- [239-242-7238](tel:239-242-7238)
Big Brothers/Big Sisters [239-278-0003](tel:239-278-0003)
Nursing Homes:
 Shady Rest- [239-931-8401](tel:239-931-8401)
 Cypress Cove- [239-415-5100](tel:239-415-5100)
 The Woodlands- [239-574-8789](tel:239-574-8789)
 Heartland- [239-275-6067](tel:239-275-6067)
 Heritage Park- [239-334-1091](tel:239-334-1091)
 Hidden Oaks- [239-939-1393](tel:239-939-1393)
Public Library Lee Co.- [239-533-4800](tel:239-533-4800)
Quality Life Center- [239-334-2797](tel:239-334-2797)
Red Cross- [239-278-3401](tel:239-278-3401)
Ronald Mc Donald House- [239-437-0202](tel:239-437-0202) / [Laura Reagan](http://LauraReagan.org)
Salvation Army – [239-628-1422](tel:239-628-1422)
Senior Friendship Center (The Dream team)- [239-275-1881](tel:239-275-1881)
Soup Kitchen/ Meals on Wheels (CCMI)- [239-332-7687](tel:239-332-7687)
Special Populations- [239-574-0574](tel:239-574-0574) (Laurie)
Special Equestrians- 239-226-1221
Thrift Stores: Blessed Pope John XXIII- 239-433-4097
 St. Vincent De Paul Society- 239-334-9225
 St. Vincent DePaul Society – 239-274-0660
 St. Columbkille Thrift- 239-489-4001
Tops Soccer-CCSA- 239-910-3845
YMCA- 239-275-9622

Service which is not pre-approved but is performed in public, non-profit endeavors such as schools, hospitals, Churches, nursing homes, soup kitchens, thrift stores, and other organizations who provide for those in need can be presented for approval.

D. Projects or Activities which will not receive credit

Projects or activities that do not meet the listed criteria, either in whole or in part, should not be assumed to fulfill the school requirement. Examples include:

- Chores done at home, baby-sitting, helping family members, or other examples of duties or responsibilities that would otherwise be performed will not qualify as service.
- Being an “office runner,” attending club meetings, assisting coaches during the high school season, or providing ordinary assistance to a teacher when asked during the school day are all encouraged but will not be considered a fulfillment of the service requirement.
- Volunteering with “for profit” organizations, companies, or individuals will not qualify even if it is done for no pay.

E. Approved service to be done on or off campus must take place outside of regular school hours.

F. Student Organizations, Clubs, or Athletic Teams may require members to participate in particular service projects or require students to exceed 20/30 hours as conditions for membership.

G. BVHS service. No student may earn more than half their total service hours from Bishop Verot Catholic High School affiliated activities.

H. Forms. Service is to be documented on a form available to students via Canvas or from the Director of Student Life's Office. The form may also be found on the school website. All columns on the form must be completed for each service entry.

I.Verification. An adult who coordinated or supervised the service must verify service performed and provide his/her contact information. Signatures from parents, peers, or anyone under the age of 18 are not acceptable forms of verification.

J. Submittal of Service Hours. Service hours must be submitted via Canvas on the approved form. Hours performed during the Summer or Fall may be submitted to Canvas prior to Christmas Break. Service performed during or after Christmas Break should be submitted to Canvas by the deadline.

K.Service Performed During Summer. Projects completed over the summer must be submitted to the Director of Campus Ministry for approval. Approval forms are available online at the BVHS website. During the summer, students are strongly encouraged to engage in Corporal Works of Mercy by working with the poor, the sick and dying, or persons otherwise in need.

L.False documentation of Christian service will be punished as academic dishonesty and a violation of the honor code. Hours falsely documented will be made up in service placements chosen by the administration. In addition, the student will be subject to disciplinary action for honor code violations as outlined in the Handbook.

M.Students who do not complete 20 or 30 Hours will be given one Saturday detention for every week (past the due date) their hours are not turned in, students may not be promoted to the next grade, and final exams will be withheld. In the case of seniors, students will be barred from senior privileges, events and will not be allowed to graduate. In such cases, a Summer Service Agreement will be required, with approval of sites from the Director of Student Life.