RELIGION & FAMILY LIFE SUDIES

Saint Paul Catholic High School

• ~N.C.D.S.B CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY SERVICE GUIDELINES~

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION HOURS	 ~ As stated by the Ontario Ministry of Education (1999), ALL Ontario Students, Grades 9 to 12, must complete 40 hours of Community Service in order to receive their Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD). These hours can be completed starting in the summer entering Grade 9, through Grade 12. Community Service hours will now be approved and tracked by the Student Services Department. Therefore, any Student Services Teacher can pre-approve and sign off activities. These hours will be tracked on a <u>NEW</u> form that will need to be picked up in the Student Services Office. Attached to this tracking form will also be the eligible activities. ~ Students MUST complete 40 HOURS of Community Service in order to graduate. Failure to do so will result in an INELIGIBLE status upon graduation.
N.C.D.S.B CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS	~ (*NEW*)~ It is now the policy of the Niagara Catholic District School Board that students are recommended to complete a minimum of 10 hours of <u>CHRISTIAN</u> Community Service EACH YEAR in every Religion class to successfully complete the course - EVEN IF THE 40 HOURS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE ARE COMPLETED by the student. These <u>CHRISTIAN</u> hours are attached to the course and can count toward the above Community Service hours needed for graduation. These CHRISTIAN HOURS are required to complete the Christian Community Service Final Project at the end of every Religion Course, which is worth 10-15% each year. These CHRISTIAN hours will be tracked SEPARATELY on its own special form- see attached.
	The students are recommended to complete the following in Religion Studies:
	 **GRADE 9 Students – 10 hours of CHRISTIAN Community Service by the end of the semester of their Grade 9 Religion class (due date will be announced) AND complete a CHRISTIAN Community Service Project worth 15% of their final grade. **GRADE 10 Students – 10 hours of CHRISTIAN Community Service by the end of the semester of their Grade 10 Religion class (due date will be announced) AND complete a CHRISTIAN Community Service Project worth 15% of their final grade. **GRADE 11 Students – 10 hours of CHRISTIAN Community Service by the end of the semester of their Grade 11 Religion class (due date will be announced) AND complete a CHRISTIAN Community Service Project worth 15% of their final grade. **GRADE 11 Students – 10 hours of CHRISTIAN Community Service by the end of the semester of their Grade 11 Religion class (due date will be announced) AND complete a CHRISTIAN Community Service Project worth 10% of their final grade for HRE 3M students and 15% for HRE 3O students. **GRADE 12 Students – 10 hours of CHRISTIAN Community Service by the end of the semester of their Grade 12 Religion class (due date will be announced) AND complete a CHRISTIAN Community Service Project worth 10% of their final grade for HRE 3M students and 15% for HRE 3O students. **GRADE 12 Students – 10 hours of CHRISTIAN Community Service by the end of the semester of their Grade 12 Religion class (due date will be announced) AND complete a CHRISTIAN Community Service Project worth 10% of their final grade for HRE 4M and 15% for HRE 4O students. Also, by this point the Ministry requirement of 40 hours should be COMPLETED by the end of the Grade 12 Religion class (BY MIDTERM for Semester TWO Students enrolled in Religion).
PRE-APPROVAL	~To avoid ineligible activities, it is imperative that a student receive a PRE-APPROVAL SIGNATURE from his/her <u>Religion teacher</u> (<i>parent/relative/friend/employer signatures are NOT allowed for pre-approval</i>). This will confirm that a student's upcoming CHRISTIAN community service activity is acceptable. Failure to do so may result in completing an ineligible activity and therefore the hours completed will not be granted. ~Eligible and ineligible activities are listed on the following pages of this booklet. ~Approval from parent /guardian, if under 18, is required before starting any community service activity.
SUMMER CHRISTIAN SERVICE	~Any student who decides to complete CHRISTIAN community service activities in the <i>SUMMER</i> <u>must</u> receive pre- approval from his/her <u>Religion Teacher only.</u> Failure to do so may result in completing an ineligible activity and therefore the hours completed will not be granted.
COLLECTION DATES	 There will be TWO collection dates (ONE per semester) for the <u>Christian</u> Community Service forms each academic year. Student Services will announce collection dates. Once forms are due they are to be forwarded to the RELIGION TEACHER. The teacher will then forward the forms to Student Services. ALL students are required to hand in their forms during their Religion semester.
SIGNATURES REQUIRED	 The <u>Christian</u> Community Service forms MUST include the following signatures: Student Parent or Guardian Contact/Supervisor RELIGION Teacher (will ensure all activities and hours are eligible and has the last signature before it is submitted to Student Services).
PHOTOCOPYING	~ It is STRONGLY recommended that students make a PHOTOCOPY of <i>Christian Community Service</i> forms before handing it in to their Religion teacher to avoid any discrepancies.

ELIGIBLE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY SERVICE ACTIVITIES (ALLOWED) (Reference: see Guiding Principles for Christian Community Service, Policy 400.3)

Appropriate Christian Community Service Placements

In keeping with the mission, vision and values of the Niagara Catholic District School Board, the following service placements constitute Christian Community Service:

(Please choose any activity from the list below to receive your TEN hours of <u>Christian</u> Community Service for each school year. Arrangements need to be made in the beginning of the semester).

1) Catholic/Christian Social Service Agencies or Social Justice Groups

- Wells of Hope
- Right to Life
- Niagara Falls Community Outreach Soup Kitchen
- Catholic Woman's League
- Knights of Columbus

2) Christian activities completed at Saint Paul Catholic:

- Pilgrimage, or any school activities designated toward raising money for developing countries
- S.C.O.E.P / Retreat leaders (before and after school hours only)
- Schools in Bloom
- Santa Clause Parade
- Saint Paul Secretary for Parent-Teacher Interviews
- Grade 9 Orientation Day assistance in August
- Saint Paul Open House assistance
- Scorekeeping or assisting as a linesperson for any sporting event * AFTER SCHOOL ONLY

3) Christian Parish Ministries/Activities:

- Altar Serving
- Reader / Minister of the Word
- Minister of the Eucharist
- Youth Ministry
- Music Ministry (Singing in the Choir)
- Assisting at any church bazaar, pancake supper, spaghetti supper etc.

4) Local Community Activities:

- Hospitals and Hospices (facilitating recreational activities only)
- Nursing homes (facilitating recreational activities only)
- Community Care residences (facilitating recreational activities only)
- Public Library (facilitating in children's recreational activities only)
- Homeless shelters
- Refugee centers
- Service Clubs (i.e. Girl Guides, Scouts Canada, Cadets, YMCA, YWCA, Boys and Girls Club)
- Coaching minor sports for the City of Niagara Falls (Volunteering only- NO CAMPS)
- Local Food banks
- Snowbuddies
- Leafbuddies

5) Non-Profit Organizations/Charities:

- Stair Climb for Cancer
- Terry Fox Run
- Rankin Run
- Arthritis Society
- Kidney Foundation
- Canadian Cancer Society
- United Way
- Big Brothers/Sisters
- Tender Wishes
- Project Share
- Coaching minor sports (not for profit sports leagues, elementary school teams)
- Hannah House (home for pregnant young mothers)
- Goodwill
- Niagara Falls Rotary Club
- Relay for Life
- Kiwanis Key Club

***Any activities that <u>do not</u> fall within the scope of the examples listed above <u>must be approved by the Secondary School Principal or Program Chair of Religion.</u>

<u>**PLEASE NOTE** due to this PANDEMIC, the DUE DATES for hours will be announced once we get approval.</u>

INELIGIBLE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY SERVICE ACTIVITIES (NOT ALLOWED - according to the Ministry of Education)

- a requirement of a class or course in which the student is enrolled (e.g., co-operative education portion of the course, job shadowing, work experience);
- takes place during the time allotted for the instructional program on a school day; however, activities during the student's lunch breaks or "spare" periods are permissible;
- takes place in a logging or mining environment, if the student is under sixteen years of age;
- takes place in a factory, if the student is under fifteen years of age;
- takes place in a workplace other than a factory, if the student is under fourteen years of age and is not accompanied by an adult;
- would normally be performed for wages by a person in the workplace (for instance, a student cannot earn Christian community service hours for volunteering their time at a Veterinarian's office, but CAN earn hours at the Humane Society since it is a non- profit organization which is run by volunteers). *Therefore, assistant teaching/coaching with dancing studios, cheerleading, martial arts, etc. will not count since they are profitable organizations.*
- involves the operation of a vehicle, power tools, or scaffolding;
- involves the administration of any type or form of medication or medical procedure to other persons;
- involves handling of substances classed as "designated substances' under the Occupational Health and Safety Act;
- requires the knowledge of a trades person whose trade is regulated by the provincial government;
- involves banking or the handling of securities, or the handling of jewelry, works of art, antiquities, or other valuables;
- consists of duties normally performed in the home (i.e. daily chores) or personal recreational activities;
- involves a court-ordered program (e.g., community-service program for young offender, probationary program)

Examples of the above INELIGIBLE (not allowed) activities include:

- Any activity that takes place during school (note: lunch and spares are excluded from this provision);
- Activities completed for reward (e.g. Bonus marks);
- Work for a workplace or business (private or commercial);
- Work normally done for a wage;
- Work for any form of payment (i.e. money, gifts, bartering);
- Work required for a course in which the student is enrolled;
- Duties (chores) performed for friends and family (i.e. aunts, uncles, grandparents, cousins) at home including places of work;
- Baby-sitting, shoveling snow, raking leaves or any type of yard/housework or property cleaning for family and friends;
- Cleaning properties for local builders/construction workers;
- Any activity that provides direct financial benefit or other gain (political, social, etc) to the student or to the student's family/relatives (i.e. Work for a Political Party and/or candidate or work to promote paid events, such as handing out flyers for performances/shows/plays);
- Taking care of the elderly at their homes (unless attached to a non-profit organization);
- Any association with an organization or an activity that conflicts with the ethical standards and teachings of the Catholic Church;
- Managing/ Coaching school teams (this is part of the school's co-curricular involvement);
- Alternative placement hours in lieu of suspension and/or detention as initiated/coordinated by school administration;
- Personal recreational activities;
- Any sport CAMPS, (i.e. soccer, hockey, football, baseball, tennis etc.) which are **privately run** (since it is considered a profitable business);
- Taking care/baby-sitting for a person who is considered special needs/handicapped at a residence/work place (only acceptable if this is taking place at a registered non-profit organization);
- Work completed at Club Halls, such as Club Italia, Club Roma, Polish Hall, Serbian Hall, Greek Hall etc;
- Scorekeeping and/or collecting money at gates for any sporting events <u>during school time</u>.
- Parent or relative signatures for the completion of activities.
- Peer tutoring at Saint Paul Catholic or at any other school.

REMINDER If unsure, PLEASE ask your Religion Teacher, Program Chair of Religion or Student Services.

Saint Paul Catholic High School

RELIGION & FAMILY LIFE SUDIE

September 3, 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian:

As stated by the Ontario Ministry of Education (1999), ALL Ontario Students, Grades 9 to 12, must complete 40 hours of Community Service in order to receive their Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD). These hours can be completed at any time from Grade 9 through Grade 12. The Community Service hours will be approved and tracked by the Student Services Department. Therefore, any Student Services Teacher can now pre-approve and sign off completed activities. These hours will be tracked on a new form that can be picked up by the student in the Student Services Office. Please keep in mind that ALL students MUST complete 40 HOURS of Community Service in order to graduate. Failure to do so will result in an <u>INELIGIBLE status</u> upon graduation.

It is now the policy of the Niagara Catholic District School Board that students are recommended to complete a minimum of **10 hours of** <u>CHRISTIAN</u> Community Service EACH YEAR in every Religion class to successfully complete the course - EVEN IF THE 40 HOURS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE ARE COMPLETED. These <u>CHRISTIAN</u> hours are attached to the course and can count toward the volunteer hours needed for graduation. These CHRISTIAN HOURS are required to complete the Christian Community Service Project at the end of every Religion Course, which is worth 10-15% each year. These CHRISTIAN hours will be tracked SEPARATELY from the Community Service Hours mentioned above. The Religion Teachers will distribute the new Christian Service form to all students.

The Students are recommended to complete the following in Religion Studies:

**GRADE 9 Students – 10 hours of CHRISTIAN Community Service by the end of the semester of their Grade 9 Religion class (due date will be announced) AND complete a CHRISTIAN Community Service Project worth 15% of their final grade. **GRADE 10 Students – 10 hours of CHRISTIAN Community Service by the end of the semester of their Grade 10 Religion class (due date will be announced) AND complete a CHRISTIAN Community Service Project worth 15% of their final grade. **GRADE 11 Students – 10 hours of CHRISTIAN Community Service by the end of the semester of their Grade 11 Religion class (due date will be announced) AND complete a CHRISTIAN Community Service by the end of the semester of their Grade 11 Religion class (due date will be announced) AND complete a CHRISTIAN Community Service Project worth 15% of their final grade. **GRADE 11 Students – 10 hours of CHRISTIAN Community Service by the end of the semester of their Grade 11 Religion class (due date will be announced) AND complete a CHRISTIAN Community Service Project worth 10% of their final grade for HRE 3M students and 15% for HRE 3O students.

**GRADE 12 Students – 10 hours of CHRISTIAN Community Service by the end of the semester of their Grade 12 Religion class (due date will be announced) AND complete a CHRISTIAN Community Service Project worth 10% of their final grade for HRE 4M and 15% for HRE 4O students. Also, by this point, the *ministry requirement of 40 hours should be COMPLETED by* the end of the Grade 12 Religion class (<u>BY MIDTERM</u> for Semester TWO Students enrolled in Religion).

Should a student not complete *The Christian Community Service Ten hour* component in Religion class, <u>then the Christian</u> <u>Community Service Final Project worth 10-15% will be difficult to complete.</u>

Every student taking Religious Studies at Saint Paul Catholic has received a handout by his/her Religion Teacher outlining what is eligible and ineligible for Christian community service hours. Your child's Religion Teacher has reviewed this information in great detail. Please take a moment and review what is ELIGIBLE and INELIGIBLE.

It is imperative that your son/daughter receives a PRE-APPROVAL SIGNATURE from <u>his/her Religion</u> teacher for his/her Christian service activities. This will confirm that your child's upcoming Christian service activity is acceptable. Failure to do so may result in completing an ineligible activity and therefore the hours completed will not be granted.

Mother Teresa said it best, "Yesterday is gone. Tomorrow has not yet come. We have only today. Let us begin!" For that reason, these Christian Community Service Projects at Saint Paul Catholic are designed to teach our students to have a desire to be the Good Samaritan and act on it ! Our ultimate goal is to start putting their faith into action!

Should you have further questions or concerns, please contact **your child's Religion teacher** for further clarification at 905-356-4313.

Sincerely,

Joanne Santini Program Chair of Religion and Family Life Studies