

**SOCIAL JUSTICE/CHURCH HISTORY WELCOME PACKET**  
**(Includes Christian Service information)**

Welcome to Junior Religion. This document contains information about the course itself, Christian service and the paper that goes with the service, Points-Of- Contact (POC) for the Christian service and other tidbits of information for Junior religion in general.

Junior religion consists of 2 courses-Social Justice and Church History. Social Justice is the first part of the course. The information part of Social Justice is from Sept. through Nov. That information is then applied throughout the year in various ways.

You will have 2 books: "Living Justice and Peace" by Jerry Windley-Daoust and "The History of the Church" by Very Rev. Peter Armenio. You only have to purchase one book, The History of the Church. The Social Justice book, I rent to you for the year. If it is returned to me in May, everything is fine. If you lose it, put it in a safe place and forgot where it is, leave it in your unlocked locker and it was borrowed by another student and not returned or any other scenario that makes it impossible to return to me, you owe me \$12.00. I will hold your final report card until I receive the book or the money.

We start with Social Justice. These books will be handed out on the first day of class. On the second day you also should bring a binder, for religion only, to class. The Church History book does not have to come to class until November.

**BINDERS**

Your binder is for religion only. It must be a binder at least 1.5 inches thick. Textbooks cannot be used for note taking. Looseleaf paper should be in the binders, as well as store bought dividers with the following labels: Tests/quizzes, film guides, Class notes and Outlines.

The Grading Scale for Jr. Religion is weighted as follows:

Binder	15%
Tests	15%
Activities	5%
Film guides	5%
Quizzes	10%
Christian Service	20%
Projects	25%
Participation	5%

Binders are collected once a quarter. If you do not do well on tests, a well-put-together and neat binder can bring your grade up and vice versa.

Your Christian Service and its accompanying paper are linked to social justice. They go together. For example one of the social justice themes is "Care for God's Creation". If you choose this theme for Christian Service, you might work at Cherryland Humane Society, A.C.Paws, or a veterinarian's office. You will have about 10 days to decide about your service and paper. By Thursday/Friday, Sept. 17/18, depending on your class day, your decision must be handed in. You might want to pick 2 themes in case you can't get service hours in the first choice.

**CLASSROOM RULES**

1. Be on time. 3 tardies and you receive a detention from the office.
2. Be prepared. Have your binder, book and a writing instrument.

3. Be in dress code. If you are out of dress code, I will ask you to go to the office until you are in dress code. Avoid this by being in dress code.
4. Be nice-to fellow classmates, teachers, other humans and all of God's creatures, "...because nice matters."
5. The Honor code is in effect. We will review this for clarification.

### **HOMEWORK POLICY AND PREPAREDNESS**

Homework is assigned in the form of outlines. You are assigned pages from your book to be outlined in your binder. There may be an open-binder quiz on the homework and you would do fine if you have your outlines completed. The outlines should have the pages of the book at the top of your page. It is advisable to stay up-to-date on your homework. If you are going to be absent, please see me for future homework assignments.

To promote student's participation and attending class, in the Religion department, we will be giving each student who is on task and prepared with text, writing utensil and binder, a point per class day. Students must also be in dress code and on time. Those who are absent, not prepared for class, tardy or out of dress code will receive no credit for that day. We will follow the Handbook policies for tardies and absences. We also ask parents not to plan appointments or vacations during class hours/days or during school mass time.

### **EXTRA INFORMATION**

This year you will be learning some traditional Catholic prayers and practices some of which have been part of the Church for generations. Some will be new to you and some you will be familiar with.

Participation is expected regardless of your religion.

We will be participating in school liturgies this year. Please do not make appointments during this time to get out of Mass. Different students will have different mass responsibilities. If you would like to be a Eucharistic Minister, a lector or an altar server, classes of instruction for these have been planned. Listen to the Morning announcements for the dates.

### **FINAL EXAMS**

Our final exams in Jr. Religion are different from the traditional ones. We usually start them 2-3 weeks ahead of the actual Exam Week. More information will be forth coming.

### **CHRISTIAN SERVICE HOURS**

Junior Religion focuses on Social Justice and Church History. The Christian Service Hours concentrate on the COMMUNITY level of service. The Social Justice paper accompanies the hours. They go together and are based on the Social Justice Themes of the Church. If you want to work on these hours during the summer, I can meet with you, give you a book and you can make your topic selection (see below) and get started on your hours. I can be reached at [smaasb@gtacs.org](mailto:smaasb@gtacs.org).

The Junior Social Justice paper represents 5 hours of research and writing. Because of this time requirement, the paper is in detail. You make the choice of the topic. It must be approved by the teacher. NO PRIOR APPROVAL-NO CREDIT. Your topic statement is due on September 15, Tuesday. You might want to put down 2 topics in case you run into problems lining up Christian Service to go along with your topic.

Junior Christian Service is done at the community level as an individual. 5 hours are due on: Wednesday, Sept. 30, Wednesday, October 28 and Wednesday, November 25 for a total of 15 hours. Your S.J. paper will also be due on November 25. The hours must relate to the paper. When you are deciding on a topic for your paper, make sure you consider what service hours will go along with your topic and where and when you will perform these hours. It's best to get them done early. If you want to do them during the

summer, this instruction sheet will be posted on the school website. The Christian Service sheets are also on the website. Make sure you have a Christian Service paper with you when you perform the service hours so that the person in charge can sign it.

An example of service and topic connection would be if you wanted to do a paper on animal cruelty (S.J. Theme-Caring for God's Creation), you could work at the Humane Society. This takes planning and you must take the Christian Service sheet with you. If you don't have it, they will send you away due to insurance liability concerns. You could also work for A.C. Paws. But planning again is needed. You must call June ahead of time as she only needs 3 volunteers. So **PLAN AHEAD.**

### **SOME HINTS FROM PREVIOUS YEARS AND STUDENTS**

1. Volunteering at Munson Medical Center is difficult because a training course is required. You could use Birchwood or Grand Traverse Pavilions instead.
2. Get your hours completed sooner rather than later. Besides having it out of the way, you can use some of the information in your paper. **MAKE SURE TO GET AN INTERVIEW FOR YOUR PAPER.**
3. Call ahead to make sure that the place is opened and has room for you.
4. Keep a log of hours and reflections about your experience. This will help you write an interesting paper. **MAKE SURE YOU TAKE A CHRISTIAN SERVICE PAPER WITH YOU TO BE SIGNED BY THE ADULT YOU WORK FOR OR WITH. SCRAP PAPER WITH A SIGNATURE WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED, ONLY CHRISTIAN SERVICE SHEETS.**

A rubric for the paper will be handed out later. Make sure you get an interview and that your paper coincides with your service.

Other things to consider for the S. J. paper:

1. If no topic is picked by Sept. 15, a topic will be assigned.
2. Please be sure to write down your choice so we can avoid confusion.
3. The research S.J. paper must have 5 references- books, periodicals, Internet, CD-ROM, etc. There must be a variety, i.e. not all Internet references.
4. You must have an interview included in the paper.
5. A Works Consulted page following MLA format will be included.
6. Interview must be listed in the Works Consulted page with the person's name, place of interview and current phone number. See MLA format.

### **AREAS OF SOCIAL JUSTICE/INJUSTICE**

- Prejudice, and/or discrimination- includes racial discrimination, sexism, discrimination against homosexuals, injustice or abuse towards the elderly, discrimination against the sick and/or handicapped, health care issues for the poor (lack of insurance, etc.), the sick, elderly, children, spouse abuse or child abuse.
- Economic issues include: global poverty, national or local poverty, homelessness for families, teens, the elderly
- Other issues: debt of poor countries to be paid to the International Monetary Fund (IMF), injustice of the imprisoned (Amnesty International) ex. Political prisoners. Leonard Peltier would fit in this category.
- Abuse of the environment-contamination, pollution, dumping.

If you can think of another area of Social Justice, come talk with me.

### **POINTS-OF-CONTACT (POC), CHRISTIAN SERVICE INFORMATION AND DEADLINES FOR JUNIOR RELIGION**

## **Points-of-Contact**

This is a list of places to do Christian Service. Each entry lists a person to contact about doing Christian Service hours. Each listing also contains the address, phone number, hours, where applicable and any other pertinent information.

Remember, you represent St. Francis High School. People expect more from you because you ARE an SF student. Yes, it's not fair but that's life.

As part of SJ and Christian Service, you have a 6-8 page research paper to write (MLA Format) and 15 hours of Christian Service. The research and writing of the paper represent 5 hours.  $15+5=20$  hours of Christian Service. I would not recommend leaving the research and writing to the last week-end or night. A late paper will receive 20% off at the beginning. This project is worth 25% of your grade.

The first step in this process is picking a topic to write about and have the Christian Service align with it, previously discussed in the "Christian Service Hours" section.

After you have chosen a topic, we will be going to the library for 1 short class period and 1 long class period. This is so you can do research on your topic.

The next part of this is to schedule and perform your hours. Since Junior year emphasis is on community level, raking someone's leaves is not acceptable. You may do it as a goodwill gesture but it doesn't count as Christian Service. The POC list will help you find places to do Christian Service. If you have other ideas, come talk with me.

In addition to the general information for each location, there is a point-of-contact. This person would be signing your Christian Service paper that you take with you. Sometimes working with friends is acceptable. Check with the POC. It makes the work more fun.

You should call the place where you want to work, speak to the person and see if it would be alright to come work on a specific time and day, with or without friends. If your plans change, call that person and re-schedule or tell them you will be late or whatever the problem is.

**MAKE SURE YOU TAKE A CHRISTIAN SERVICE WORKSHEET WITH YOU FOR A SIGNATURE. ALSO MAKE SURE YOU HAVE AN UP-TO-DATE PHONE NUMBER FOR THE PERSON SIGNING YOUR SHEET. (Yes, I do call and check.)** I will not accept a parent's signature unless they are the point of contact or work at the establishment.

If you work with friends, remember you are there to work, not goof off. If the POC says you goofed off, I will halve your hours worked. Instead of 6 hours of work, I will count it as 3. Sometimes the job is limited to the number of people. The Boardman River project would need 6 people to work together, but the GoodWill Thrift Shop would be no more than 3 people. **PLAN AHEAD, DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE THIRD WEEK-END IN NOVEMBER. This is being published in the summer so you can take advantage of some free time.**

**Make sure your service coincides with your topic. See me if you need suggestions.**

### **Boardman River Project (environment)**

1450 Cass Rd., T.C.

POC-Robin Johnson -941-0960 or Colleen Masterson 941-0960.

The River Project has workshops on 7/18, 8/15, and 9/19 on invasive species. You would be helping teach these workshops at the Boardman River Project Nature Center on Cass Rd. There may be other projects you can help with on different dates such as working bees.

Call ahead.

### **Cherryland Humane Society (ethical treatment of animals)**

1750 Ahlberg Rd., at the end of Hammond by the Industrial Park.

POC-Sharon or Jeannie -946-5116.

Hours: Monday-Friday, 11-5. Saturday 11-3.

Hands on. Clean cages, walk dogs, help in adoption. Call ahead and arrive on time. Sometimes there are too many people and teens are let go. There can be 2-3 people working together. Make sure you take your Christian Service sheet as this is needed for their insurance. No C.S. paper, no work.

**East Bay Township Parks Maintenance (environment)**

1965 N. 3 Mile Rd., T.C.

POC- Jerry Zeites-590-5645 or 947-8660

You will be cleaning up the township parks, refreshing trails with wood chips, trimming bushes, putting up signs. The parks are Killingsworth Park, Chandler Park and Grace McDonald Park.

Bring your Christian service sheets.

**Father Fred Foundation (homelessness, poverty)**

826 Hastings St., T.C.

POC -Martie Manty-947-2055

Hrs. are Tuesday through Friday, 10-2 and Wednesday evening in the Furniture Center, 2-7:30.

Thanksgiving dinner sign-up, call to see if you can sign up. Slots fill up fast.

There is also the Fr. Fred Garage Sale in Sept. 12, Sat. Help would be needed the whole week before, and the day of the Sale. Call Barb Evans at 883-1527 if you are interested.

Call before you go to volunteer and take your CS sheet.

**Fresh Food Partnership (homelessness, poverty)**

324 Munson Ave., T.C.

POC-Casey Russell- 929-3696

Drive fresh food from local farmers to food pantries or assist in harvesting end-of-the-season vegetables, called "gleaning".

**GoodWill Inn (homelessness and poverty)**

2943 Keystone Rd., R.C.

POC-Luann Heinert-Volunteer coordinator-995-7713.

Helping with maintenance, repairs, etc. Call at least one week ahead of time. Refurbishing usually takes place in October. Groups of 3-4 are welcome. Bring your Christian service sheet for a signature.

**GoodWill Thrift Shop (poverty, homelessness, discrimination against the physically or mentally challenged )**

1154 South Airport, T.C.

POC- Call the manager on duty , 922-4826. Identify yourself as a SF student and ask if you can come work on a certain date. They should say yes. If there is a problem tell them your teacher spoke to Luann Heinert, volunteer coordinator, and she said to call the manager and check as to if you can come work. Sing the book in the back. No more than 3 students at a time. Bring a Christian Service sheet.

Other opportunities, such as working at a fund raiser, may come in. Bring your Christian service sheet.

**Grand Traverse Pavilions (elderly)**

1000 Pavilion Center- next to Munson Hospital

POC-Linda Dennis- 932-3054

Talk to patients, help in office, serve meals, play game with patients.

Call ahead, some paperwork is required at the beginning, no more than 15 minutes. Bring your Christian service sheet.

**Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy (environment)**

3860 N. Long Lake Rd., T.C.

POC-Rolf VanWhalthausen-929-7911 or Rolf@GTRLC.org.

You can work in groups or as one person. There is usually outside activities, sometimes office work.

Call ahead and bring your Christian service sheet.

**Grand Traverse Right To Life (life and dignity of the human person)**

3886 Cass Rd., T.C.

POC-Carol Tondreau or Betty Kunkel – 946-9469.

Office work usually. Bring your Christian service sheet.

**Habitat For Humanity (homelessness and poverty)**

POC-Carrie Ullergy-Smith- 941-4663

Three possibilities at Habitat. They will be rehabbing houses instead of building, this Summer and Fall.

Call to see if you can work there. They also want to have students do fundraising for them. You would

learn how to put a fundraiser together and run it. The third choice is working at The Restore, 1120

Woodmere. Hours are Monday- Friday 9-5 p.m. and Saturday 9-3 p.m. They are very busy on Saturdays

and could use your help. Bring your Christian service sheet.

**Michael's Place (working with grieving children and their families)**

1055 S. Carriage Hill, T.C.

POC- Mindy Buell- 947-6453

Monday's 5:30-8. Work with children, setting up for dinner, cleaning up after dinner. Call ahead and bring your Christian Service sheet.

Need help on Thursday and Friday, Sept. 10 and 11, setting up chairs, tables and arrangements for a vineyard party on the peninsula. Call ahead.

Also a "Dancing With the Stars" will be ongoing on the first Friday nights from Sept. to New Year's. If you are interested in helping with this call Michael's Place and speak with Mrs. Buell.

**St. Vincent de Paul Society (homelessness, poverty)**

715 Beitner Rd., behind Brick Wheels.

POC- Mrs. Flohe-947-6069.

Hours: Mon.-Friday 10-5; Sat. 10-4.

**Salvation Army (homelessness, poverty)**

Thrift Shop- 1225 S. Airport between Marshall Music and Play It Again Sports

POC- Dorothy- 946-5194.

Work in food pantry, cleaning and hanging clothes. Call ahead and speak with Dorothy. Hours are 9a.m. to 7 p.m. every day except Sunday. Bring your Christian service sheet

**State Park Campgrounds (environment)**

31 N. Rt. 131, T.C.

POC- Ranger John Walters- 922-5270

You will need a short safety briefing, probably when you go to work. You will be helping to clean up the campgrounds, answering questions from campers, etc. Bring your Christian service sheet.

**Tendercare (Elderly)**

2585 LaFranier Rd., T.C.

POC: Amber Winn or Colleen Goldman-947-0506

First time, come early for a small amount of paperwork. Talk with patients, play games, kibbitz. Bring your Christian service sheet.

**The Watershed Center of Grand Traverse Bay (environment)**

13272 Southwest Bay Shore Dr., T.C.

POC-Ellen Kohler 935-1514, ext. #0 or John Nelson ext. #3.

Summer programs such as beach ranger program, office help or water sampling (first 2 weeks in Oct.). There may be some beach clean-up. Bring your Christian service sheet.

**Women's Resource Center (homelessness, poverty, abuse)**

3030 N. US 31-Use Pizza Hut driveway. Near Olive Garden and Pizza Hut.

POC-Carol Rose-946-4180

Hours: Monday-Sat., 10-6; Sun., 11-5. Bring your Christian service sheet.