

Social Justice/Church History Welcome Packet for 2010-2011 School Year (Includes Christian Service Information)

Welcome to Junior Religion which is comprised of Social Justice and Church History. This document contains information about the course itself, Christian Service and the paper that goes with the service, Points-of-Contact (POC) for Christian Service and other tidbits of information for Junior religion in general.

Junior religion consists of two courses- Social Justice and Church History. Social Justice is the first part of the course. The information portion of Social Justice is from September through November. The information is then applied throughout the year in various ways. Church History is the portion of the course for the history of our Church. It dovetails with Social Justice.

Books: The Social Justice book, "Living Justice and Peace" by Jerry Windley-Daoust, is rented to you by me. You don't pay for this book unless you cannot return it to me in May, 2011. If you lose it; put it in a safe place and forget where it is; lend it to a friend and don't get it back; etc. , you owe me \$12.00. I hold report cards until I get the book or the money.

The Church History book is "The History of the Church"- semester edition. This is a new book and will be available in November 2010. Watch for more details in upcoming school newsletters regarding the purchase of this book.

We begin with Social Justice. These books are handed out during the first week of class. If you need a Social Justice book before school begins, contact me at smaasb@gtacs.org. If you are planning to work on your Christian Service and Social Justice paper this summer, you will need a book to pick your service. More details to follow. We'll make arrangements for you to pick up a book. These books are brought to class daily until December. In December, you can start bringing the Church History book.

CHRISTIAN SERVICE

Christian Service for juniors is activated at the community level. This means you can still babysit, rake leaves for neighbors, serve at Mass but these will not count as Christian Service. These will be performed from the goodness of your heart. Junior Christian Service must align with one of the Social Justice principles. They can be found on pg. 56 of our book. You may also go to www.usccb.org and find them. An example of alignment of service with principle would be working at the Humane Society or at a Veterinarian's office (for free) and writing your Social Justice paper on the "Care For God's Creation" principle.

You should think this out. Plan what you will write about and what service would coincide with that principle. The deadline for Topic Pick will be Wednesday, September 15th. This will give you time to do 5 Christian Service hours by the end of Sept. If you do your hours in the summer, you will have already done this and will just tell me what you are researching.

SOCIAL JUSTICE PAPER AND CHRISTIAN SERVICE HOURS

The purpose of the Social Justice paper is to give you the opportunity to research and write about a social justice or injustice. The paper and Christian Service go together, hand-in-hand, for a total of 20 Christian Service hours. The service is worth 15 hours and the research and writing of the paper represent 5 hours.

Your paper and service have to go together. When you are working at the service place, ask questions and get information on your topic. For example, ask the people at GoodWill how GoodWill has grown?; who uses the GoodWill Thrift Shop?; how does Pete's Place help local homeless teens? You can include this type of information in your paper.

You cannot wait until the last weekend to do your service and write your paper. The deadlines listed in this document were put in as a response to students' evaluations. Students have asked to have deadlines each month rather than turning all the hours in when the final paper is due in November.

The Social Justice paper is 6-8 pages long and is a research/personal experience paper. The "personal experience" part comes from your Christian Service hours and the information you have collected from your time serving your chosen organization.

PAPER FORMAT (more information will follow)

1 inch margins

Cover page: Your name, date, Class hour, Title

Print-Times New Roman or Arial (no Script) Font size 12

Double spaced, no extra lines

Last name and page number in upper right hand corner-NO HEADERS.

Works Consulted page-check MLA format

POINTS OF CONTACT (POC)

Points of contact (POC) are people and places that you may contact for Christian Service hours. Some of the organizations listed are places other juniors have gone to for years to do their service. Some are new. If you have an idea of a different place where you could perform service that coincides with your Social Justice choice, let me know and we can add it to the list.

The list of organizations to choose from include: title of the location, area of Social Justice, address, name of person in charge, phone number, hours and any information particular to that location. In all cases you should call ahead. This means you have to plan ahead. Make sure you take your Christian Service sheet with you to have it signed. This is available on the website. For some places, there are notes, for example at GoodWill you must wear covered shoes as it is part of their insurance policy.

Remember that you represent St. Francis High School. People expect more from you because you ARE an SF student. I know you will make us proud!

Sometimes working with friends is acceptable and makes it fun. Check with the POC to see if this is acceptable. There may be a limit on the number of students they will accept at any given time. For example, GoodWill will only take 3 students at a time. Check ahead with the location. 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 work hours. Instead of 6 hours I will count it as 3. **PLAN AHEAD AND DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE THIRD WEEKEND OF NOVEMBER. This is being published in July so you can take advantage of some free time.**

Make sure your service coincides with your topic. Contact me if you need suggestions or help.

smaasb@gtacs.org

The due dates for hours of service are as follows:

1st 5 hours Sept. 29

2nd 5 hours Oct. 27

3rd 5 hours Nov. 24

(However, you MAY complete all of your service hours during the summer months or earlier in the school year than the dates listed above.)

Social Justice Opportunities

- **A.C.Paws-(ethical treatment of animals-Care for God's Creation)**
Adoption of dogs and cats. Takes place at PetSmart. 2544 Crossing Cir., by Borders, Staples, Walmart. Call June at 587-0738. It takes time to get in touch with June so keep trying. Hours of work are: 6-8 p.m., Tues. and Thurs. Sat. 1-5 and Sun. 4-6 p.m. Take your Christian Service sheet with you.
- **Boardman River Project-(Care for God's Creation) Grand Traverse Conservation District**
1450 Cass Rd., T.C. Robin Christensen-941-0960 Coleen Masterson -941-0960
Monthly work bees: July 17, August 21 and September 18. Call ahead and bring your Christian Service sheet.
 - Pulling invasives around the Boardman River Nature Center (small groups 2-3 students), flexible hours within normal business hours (8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Last day is Sept. 30. Contact Robin.
 - Assist with Day Camp Programs. Contact Colleen.
 - 1 student to dress up as GTCD's Ollie the Otter for Inland Seas Ed. Assoc. MusicFest, July 17 and 1 student on Aug. 14, Bay Day. Contact Colleen.
 - Data entry-1 students. Hours are flexible within normal business hours (8-4:30). Contact Colleen.
- **Cherryland Humane Society (ethical treatment of animals-Care For God's Creation)**

1750 Ahlberg Rd., T.C. at the end of Hammond Rd., by the Industrial Park. POC is Sue Gates. 946-5116. Hours: Monday- Friday 11-5, Sat. 11-3. Hands on work. Clean cages, walk dogs, help in adoption. Call ahead and arrive on time. Sometimes there are too many people and teens are the first to be 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. Don't forget your Christian Service paper.

- **East Bay Township Maintenance (environment- Care for God's Creation)**
1965 N. 3 Mile Rd., T.C. Jerry Zeites-590-5645 or 947-8647. 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. Most project will be in late Summer and Fall. Bring your Christian Service sheets.
- **Father Fred Foundation (homelessness, poverty)**
826 Hastings St., T.C. POC is Sue Bower, Volunteer coordinator, 947-2055. Hours are Tuesday through Friday, 10-2 and Wednesday evening in the Furniture Center, 2-7:30p.m. There is the Fr. Fred Garage Sale on Sept. 18, 9-4 p.m. Help would be needed the week before and the day of the sale. Call Sue if you are interested. Bring your Christian Service Sheet.
- **GoodWill Thrift Shop (poverty, homelessness, discrimination against physically or mentally challenged)**
1154 South Airport, T.C. Call the manager on duty, 922-4826. Identify yourself as an SF student and ask if you can come work on a certain date. NO FLIP-FLOPS. Feet must be covered for insurance purposes. Sign the book in the back. No more than 3 students at a time. Bring your Christian Service sheet.
- **Grand Traverse Pavilions (elderly)**
1000 Pavilion Center-next to Munson Hospital. POC is Linda Dennis-932-3054. Talk to patients, help in office, serve meals, play games with patients, sing with the patients. Call ahead. Please don't wait until the last minute. If you wait until the last days, you may not get in. You will have to fill in some paperwork at the beginning, about 10-15 minutes. Bring your Christian Service sheet.
- **Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy (environment-Care for God's Creation)**
3860 N. Lone Lake Rd. T.C . POC is Rolf vonWalthausen, 929-7911 or Rolf@gtrLC.org. You may work in groups or as one person. There are 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 and call ahead.
- **Habitat For Humanity (homelessness and poverty)**
POC-Carrie Ullergy-Smith- 941-4663. There may be construction possibilities for those who are 18 or over. Call to see if there is work. 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 10-5 p.m. and Saturday 10-3 p.m. On

Wednesdays they are open until 6 p.m. They are very busy on Saturdays and could use our help. Bring your Christian Service sheet

- **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 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. every day except Sunday. Bring your Christian Service sheet.

- **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.

- **Tendercare (elderly-Respect for Life and Human Dignity)**

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.

If you have questions e-mail me at smaasb@gtacs.org.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the books needed for this course, you will also need a:

2", Three-ring binder

Loose-leaf paper

5 divider tabs

This binder is only for religion. So no math homework, science notes, etc. Also, no notebooks, composition books, spiral notebooks. You should have loose-leaf paper and dividers. You will need 5 dividers: Tests/quizzes, activities, film guides, class notes and handouts. The dividers should be store-bought, not homemade. Binders are collected once a quarter. If you do not do well on tests, the binder will help your grade. It should be put together as described above, neat and up-to-date.

GRADING SCALE

The grading scale for Junior Religion is weighted as follows:

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

CLASSROOM RULES

1. Be on time. There are no excused tardies. If a teacher is speaking with you and it is getting close to class time, excuse yourself politely and tell the teacher that you have to be on time for Jr. Religion or Mrs. Maasberg will mark you tardy.
2. Be prepared. Bring a writing utensil, your binder and one of the texts, preferably the one we are using.
3. Be in dress code-black, navy or khaki pants, skirts or shorts. No white pants, skirts, shorts. Only white camisoles or shirts under the SF polo shirt for girls. No striped or colored shirts under the polos. No flip-flops. If you are out of dress code, I will ask you to go to the office until you are in dress code.
4. Be nice to classmates, teachers, guest 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.

EXTRA INFORMATION

This year we will be learning some traditional Catholic prayers and practice 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 Mass time to get out of going to Mass. There will be training in Sept. for the various Mass ministries. You will be able to sign up for these the first week of school.

FINAL EXAMS

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

CONCLUSION

This instruction sheet has been posted to the school website in July. The Christian Service worksheets are also on the website under "Christian Service". Make sure the sheets go with you when you are doing your hours. Make sure your service coincides with your paper. **PLAN AHEAD!**

DEADLINE REMINDER!

Topic choice: Sept. 15

1st 5 hours Sept. 29

2nd 5 hours Oct. 27

3rd 5 hours Nov. 24

Again, you may complete your hours in advance of the due dates listed above.

PARENTAL SIGNATURE

If your parents read and sign this and you bring in the signature block, you will receive extra credit on the first test. **Please print off packet and put in the front of your binder.**

SIGNATURE BLOCK FOR HAVING READ THE INFORMATION PACKET.

Parent Printed Name

Parent Signature

Student's printed name

Student's Signature