

ST. EDWARD SCHOOL
STUDENT OUTREACH PROGRAM
2009-2010

Following in the footsteps of St. Dominic, St. Edward and St. Gaspar, students at St. Edward School strive to be active Christians who demonstrate a spirit of service. All of us by our Baptism are called to spread the Gospel message of Jesus Christ, who reached out to the poor, the vulnerable, and those in need. Such a spirit of giving is integral to being a follower of Jesus. This is the spirit and call of Mother Pia, the foundress of the Dominican Sisters of Mission San Jose, Saint Edward, our parish patron saint and Saint Gaspar, founder of the Missionaries of the Precious Blood who serve our parish.

Our theme this school year **“Walking Together in Faith and Gratitude”** calls us to belief in the love of God for us. In faith, we open our hearts to be filled with gratitude for all we receive daily. Living gratitude expands our hearts to receive the love God offers to us through our Catholic faith in community with one another. During the school year, students will be required to give a certain number of outreach hours of service.

Grade	Number of Outreach Hours per Trimester	Completion Dates for each Trimester	Total Number of Outreach Hours
K-2	1	11/05/09, 2/19/10, 5/13/10	3
3-4	2	11/05/09, 2/19/10, 5/13/10	6
5	3	11/05/09, 2/19/10, 5/13/10	9
6	4	11/05/09, 2/19/10, 5/13/10	12
7-8	5	11/05/09, 2/19/10, 5/13/10	15

At St. Edward Parish School our mission is to, “empower students to reach their full potential and to embrace the commitment to serve others.” Because we believe service is integral to Christian living we strive to help students become active Christians who “demonstrate a spirit of service”, socially responsible members of the community who “integrate Catholic Social Principles into their lives”, and reflective individuals who “value themselves and others.”

Students are encouraged to participate in a variety of outreach; therefore all students must be involved in a different activity at a different location each trimester. Outreach hours must be done for people or organizations outside your family and St. Edward School community. The students, along with the help of their parents, are responsible for making arrangements for

outreach opportunities. All outreach projects must be approved by the homeroom teacher *before* the student does the service to ensure that they meet the criteria. The students are to complete a “Report of Outreach” signed by an adult at the service site. The report is to be given to the student’s homeroom teacher. The outreach component counts as 10% of the religion grade each trimester.

All hours must be completed each trimester. Any remaining hours will carry over to the next trimester’s requirements and a letter from the principal will be sent to the family. All outreach hours for grades K-8 must be completed and the reports given to the homeroom teacher two weeks prior to the end of each trimester.

Attached is a list of possible suggestions for outreach opportunities based on the Seven Catholic Social Principles. Students and their families are invited to pursue additional opportunities for service and some families have joined together to participate in service activities together.

It is our hope that by their participation in the St. Edward Student Outreach Program our students will integrate Catholic Christian service into their lives.

Yours in Christ,

The Staff at St. Edward School

P.S. Please sign the acknowledgement and return it to the homeroom teacher. Each student must sign, so parents you may need to sign more than one acknowledgement.

PARENT/STUDENT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We commit ourselves to fulfilling the St. Edward Student Outreach Program.

Student Signature

Parent Signature

Date

Grade

Please return to your homeroom teacher no later than Thursday, 9/03/09. Thank You!

ST. EDWARD SCHOOL STUDENT OUTREACH PROGRAM

REPORT OF OUTREACH

I, _____, strive to be

An active Christian who

- Demonstrates a spirit of service in Church, family, school, and community.

A socially responsible member of community who

- Shows global awareness.
- Integrates Catholic Social Principles into their lives.
- Demonstrates a willingness to cooperate with others for the common good.

An reflective individual who

- Values self and others.

Teacher Approval _____

Place of Outreach _____ **Date** _____

Description of Outreach _____

Site Supervisor's Signature _____ **# of Hours** _____

Supervisor's Comments _____

Student Reflection: Describe how you came to be involved in this activity, how your outreach was helpful to the community, and how you felt as you served your community. (Students in Grade K and 1 may draw a picture and/or write a sentence. Students in Grade 2 need only to write two to three sentences.)

ST. EDWARD SCHOOL STUDENT OUTREACH PROGRAM

REPORT OF OUTREACH

I, _____, strive to be

An active Christian who

- Helps others.

A socially responsible member of community who

- Lives the Gospel.
- Works well with others.

An reflective individual who

- Loves God, others, and self.

Teacher Approval _____

Place of Outreach _____ **Date** _____

Description of Outreach _____

Site Supervisor's Signature _____ **# of Hours** _____

Supervisor's Comments _____

Student Reflection: Describe how you came to be involved in this activity, how your outreach was helpful to the community, and how you felt as you served your community. (Students in Grade K and 1 may draw a picture and/or write a sentence. Students in Grade 2 need only to write two to three sentences.)

Student Outreach Suggestions

- Visit nursing homes or children's hospitals(cards, Christmas carols, holiday crafts)
- Work in community outreach facilities such as LOV Newark, Salvation Army, St. Vincent DePaul, local soup kitchens and homeless shelters
- Collect food, clothing from your home and delivering it to a local shelter
- Collect supplies, write letters to military men and women
- Tutor a schoolmate
- Contact politicians and express concerns regarding social issues and offer suggestions
- Arrange w/ police/fire dept. or postal service to make posters to support community awareness
- Earn money mowing lawns, baby-sitting...and contribute money to a worthy cause
- Work with people who are handicapped
- Make and distribute sandwiches to a local homeless shelter
- Visit the Dominican Mother House (writing cards/making Christmas gifts for older sisters)
- Earn money to adopt a child in another country
- Participate in a community park, beach, city clean-up project
- Contact shelters to ask about assistance needed
- Contact local library and get involved in tutoring program
- Altar serve at Sunday liturgies
- Participate in children's choir at Sunday liturgies
- Assist teachers in the Faith Formation program

Ideas shared by the 8th Grade Class

- Collect bathroom supplies for Viola Blythe
- Make lunches for the Sunrise Village
- Wrap gifts for the Giving Tree Project
- Serve breakfast at the Elks Club
- Help to build a playground through People to People
- Assist with activities sponsored by the Blue Star Moms – mothers of soldiers in Iraq