**Vanier Catholic Secondary School**

**Service Learning Project**

As members of a Christian community we are called to work together to build a world of peace, justice, and compassion.

To accomplish this, we must reach beyond ourselves. Jesus tells us in Matthew's Gospel: “I tell you: what you do to the least of my brothers, you do to me” (Matthew 25:40). We are called to be witnesses of Jesus in this world. It is in this spirit that the religion program at VCSS includes a service learning component.

As part of their religion courses, students are required to complete a number of volunteer/service hours as well as a small reflection assignment **in order to receive their religion credits**. These hours must be completed outside of class time and students must not receive compensation in any form for their time and effort. *These hours are to be voluntary*.

School staff will remind and encourage students to seek contacts and opportunities for service, but ultimately it is the responsibility of each student to find a way to meaningfully reach out to their community.

**The completed booklet must be handed in to Ms. Gray in the Office of Religious Education.**

For students in **grade 8 and 9**, this is **DUE AT THE BEGINNING OF JANUARY.** If a student does not complete their hours by then, they must meet with Ms. Gray to ensure a plan is in place to complete the hours before May 1.

For students in **grade 10, 11 and 12:**

those taking their religion course in the first semester, logged hours and reflections are **DUE AT THE BEGINNING OF JANUARY.**

For students taking their religion course in the second semester, this assignment is **DUE NO LATER THAN MAY 1.**

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***The hours requirements are as follows:***

* **Grade 8**: 5 hours
* **Grade 9:** 10 hours
* **Grade 10:** 15 hours
* **Grade 11:** 15 hours
* **Grade 12:** Students need a total of 30 hours between grades 10, 11 and 12. Therefore, i*f they have met the requirements in grade 10 and 11, they will not need to log hours in grade 12.*

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date | Place and activity  | Hours logged | Contact Name and Number | Contact Signature  |
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***Reflection:***

***Please write answers on reverse side or on a separate sheet, stapled to this booklet.***

1. Why are service and outreach important parts of growing together in community?
2. What have you learned through this project?
3. How did this experience go for you? How would you evaluate your commitment to this component of your religion course?
4. With this assignment completed, what could be your “next steps” in terms of serving the community, volunteering, or reaching out to others?

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