Christian Service Senior INTERVIEW Packet

This assignment is a required part of your Christian community service at DeMatha. Failure to complete this portion of the community service requirement will result in your diploma and your transcripts being withheld.

Objective: To reflect on the Christian community service you performed during your junior and senior years at DeMatha. This reflection is to be completed in a 20-25 minute, interview-style conversation with an approved DeMatha faculty member.

Who qualifies?: Any senior who has fully completed and turned in his hours by March 1, 2022. Interviews will take place throughout March unless otherwise scheduled by Mrs. Bright or the faculty interviewer.

Disclaimer: Any student who does not meet the following requirements outlined below will NOT be allowed to pass the interview and will NOT fulfill the Christian service requirement. Students will be deemed pass/fail based on the discretion of the interviewer or Mrs. Bright.

**Students who DO NOT PASS THE INTERVIEW will be expected to complete the traditional Christian service paper**

Reflection Requirements and Expectations:
1. Students must be completely prepared to converse in an intelligent, thoughtful and reflective manner. This includes:
   a. Having thoroughly read the attached packet and being able to connect your service to the readings by answering the questions included below (in Interview Structure)
   b. Having a clear recollection of the location, time, and type(s) of service you performed over the past two years.
2. Students must be in appropriate and complete DeMatha uniform dress. Treat this as a formal declaration of your readiness to graduate.
3. Students must be on time and show respect to the interviewer.
4. Interview will last no less than 15 minutes and no more than 25 minutes; any changes in length will be left up to the interviewer’s discretion.

Required Reading: Read each of the handouts that are in the packet and use them to help prepare for the interview. It is expected that students will reference each reading in their interview. The readings include:

- Catholic Social Teaching Scripture Guide
- Excerpt from Tattoos on the Heart, by Greg Boyle, S.J
Interview Structure: Your interview will consist of three different components.

I. Introduction

You must identify where, when and whom you served during your junior/senior service project. Be specific and include which vulnerable population you served.

II. Personal Analysis:

(A) Choose one of the seven basic themes of Catholic Social Teaching (CST) that your service embodied and use it to explain how your service embodied this CST theme.

(B) Discuss the effect this service had on you, the people with whom you worked, and the larger community.

III. Contextual Analysis

Using the excerpt from Tattoos on the Heart, be prepared to answer the following questions:

1. Boyle reveals that the end-goal of service or connection is to create kinship. What does he mean by this?

2. Were you able to find kinship in your service? Explain why or why not.

3. Read the story of Chico carefully. What did you think of how Boyle mourned his death?

4. Part of finding kinship with others is realizing that you can learn from them and that they have something to offer you. What did you learn from those you encountered in service?
LIFE AND DIGNITY OF THE HUMAN PERSON

All people are created in the image of God and thus, all human life, from conception to natural death, is sacred. Through the mystery of Christ, we become children of the Father and temples of the Holy Spirit. God’s love for all is the foundation of human dignity. The basic dignity that each person possesses comes from God; therefore all forms of discrimination are always wrong. People take precedence over things and structures. Systems are meant to serve people. And people are meant to serve and care for one another. Scripture tells us repeatedly of God’s love for us. We are called to see every person through the eyes of God and to love them because God loved them (and us) first.

Genesis 1:26-31 God created man and woman in his image.

Deuteronomy 10:17-19 God loves the orphan, the widow, and the stranger. You should too.

Proverbs 22:2 The Lord is the maker of both rich and poor.

Luke 10:25-37 The good Samaritan recognized the dignity in the other and cared for his life.

John 4:1-42 Jesus broke with societal and religious customs to honor the dignity of the Samaritan woman.

Romans 12:9-18 Love one another, contribute to the needs of others, live peaceably with all.

1 Corinthians 3:16 You are holy, for you are God’s temple and God dwells in you.

Galatians 3:27-28 All Christians are one in Christ Jesus.

James 2:1-8 Honor the poor.

1 John 3:1-2 See what love the Father has for us, that we should be called Children of God.

1 John 4:7-12 Let us love one another because love is from God.
CALL TO FAMILY, COMMUNITY, AND PARTICIPATION

Our faith is rooted in the mystery of the Trinity: the divine relationship between the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. God’s own essence is a communion of persons. Created in God’s image, we too are social creatures. We are called to live this Trinitarian reality of self-giving love. It is in the community that we are shaped and formed. It is through the community that the dignity of every individual is realized. And it is out of the community that we are sent to love and serve the world. We find in Pope Benedict XVI’s encyclical, Caritas in Veritate, “The more we strive to secure a common good corresponding to the real needs of our neighbors, the more effectively we love them. Every Christian is called to practice this charity...This is the institutional path - we might also call it the political path - of charity, no less excellent and effective than the kind of charity which encounters the neighbour directly.” ¹

Genesis 4:8-15 I am my brother’s and sister’s keeper.
Leviticus 25:23-43 What you own belongs to the Lord and is given for the good of all.
Jeremiah 7:5-7 If you act justly with one another, God will dwell in the land.
Micah 6:6-8 Act justly, love kindness, walk humbly with God.
John 15:12-17 This is my commandment: love one another as I have loved you.
Acts 2:43-47; Life among the believers.
Romans 12:4-8 We are one body, individually members one of another.
Hebrews 10:24-25 Rouse one another to love and good works.
1 Peter 4:8-11 Serve one another with the gifts you have received.
1 John 3:16-18 We ought to lay down our lives for one another.
1 John 4:19-21 Those who love God must love their brothers and sisters.

¹Benedict XVI, Deus Caritas Est.
RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

We are created in God’s image. As such, every person has the right to life. They also have a right to those things which preserve their dignity, or quality of life: food, shelter, health care, education, and meaningful employment. Corresponding to these rights are responsibilities. Because we are created in the image of the Triune God, we must respect the rights of others and care for others according to God’s commandments and example.

Leviticus 19:9-10 A portion of the harvest is set aside for the poor and the stranger.

Ruth 2:2-23 Boaz cares for Ruth, a widow and a foreigner, giving her far more than the law requires.

Tobit 4:5-11 Give from what you have received and do not turn away from the poor.

Isaiah 1:16-17 Seek justice, rescue the oppressed, defend the orphan, plead for the widow.

Jeremiah 22: 13-16 A legitimate government upholds the rights of the poor and vulnerable.

Jeremiah 29:4-7 Seek the welfare of the city, for in its welfare you will find your welfare.

Matthew 25: 31-46 Just as you did it to the least of these, you did it to me.

Luke 16:19-31 The rich man has a responsibility to care for Lazarus.

Acts 4:32-35 There was not a needy person among them.

2 Corinthians 9:6-15 God’s gifts are given to be shared.

James 2:14-18 Faith without works is dead.
OPTION FOR AND WITH THE POOR

The morality of society is judged by how well our most vulnerable members are faring. Just as a parent gives more care and resources to a sick child, in order that the child might become healthy, so we as Christians are called to put the needs of the poor and vulnerable first. Those with the greatest need require the greatest response. In a society marked by the deepening divide between rich and poor, the gospel calls us to radical and self-giving love—to meet the needs of the poor and vulnerable and to oppose the structures that perpetuate poverty and abuse the vulnerable.

Exodus 22:20-26 You shall not oppress the poor or vulnerable. God will hear their cry.
Job 34:20 The Lord hears the cry of the poor.
Proverbs 31:8-9 Speak out in defense of the poor.
Sirach 4:1-10 Don’t delay giving to those in need.
Isaiah 25:4-5 God is a refuge for the poor.
Isaiah 58:5-7 True worship is to work for justice and care for the poor and oppressed.
Luke 6:20-23 Blessed are the poor, theirs is the kingdom of God.
1 John 3:17-18 How does God’s love abide in anyone who has the world’s good and sees one in need and refuses to help?
DIGNITY OF WORK AND THE RIGHTS OF WORKERS

Work is about more than making a living; it is a form of participation in the creative work of God. People have a right to decent, meaningful work and fair wages. Workers have the right to organize and join unions, own private property, and to economic initiative. Work should promote the dignity of the worker. Our economy exists to serve people, not vice versa. Our faith calls us to demand justice for all workers and a just economy that serves the life and dignity of all. Likewise, our work contributes to the good life of our brothers and sisters.

Genesis 2:1-3  God rests on the seventh day.

Deuteronomy 5:13-15  The Sabbath is for everyone—all are allowed to rest from their work.

Deuteronomy 14:28-29  The Lord blesses our work so that we may share its fruits with others.

Deuteronomy 24:14-15  Do not withhold wages from your workers, for their livelihood depends on them.

Sirach 34:20-22  To deprive an employee of wages is to commit murder.

Isaiah 58:3-7  To observe religious practices, but oppress your workers is false worship.

Jeremiah 22:13  Woe to him who treats his workers unjustly.

Matthew 20:1-16  All workers should be paid a just and living wage.

Mark 2:27  The Sabbath was made for people, not people for the Sabbath.

Luke 3:10-14  Practice integrity in your work.

Luke 12:13-21  One’s worth is not determined by an abundance of possessions.

James 5:1-6  Those who become rich by abusing their workers have sinned against God.
SOLIDARITY

We are one human family, whatever our national, racial, ethnic, economic and ideological differences. We are our brother’s and sister’s keeper. As Christians, we are as St. Paul reminds us, one body. Love of neighbor has global dimensions in our rapidly shrinking world. At the core of solidarity is the pursuit of justice and peace. Peace is more than a lack of conflict. Peace, or in Hebrew Shalom, means literally “right relationship.” The gospel calls us to be peacemakers: that we live in right relationship with others, ourselves, and God. Pope Paul VI taught, “If you want peace, work for justice.” Our love for our entire human family demands that we work for justice and for peace, that we promote God’s shalom in our world.

Genesis 12:1-3 God blessed Israel so that all nations would be blessed through it.
Psalm 72 Living in right relationship with others brings peace.
Psalm 122 Peace be with you! For the sake of the Lord, I will seek your good.
Zechariah 8:16 These are the things you should do: Speak truth, judge well, make peace.
Matthew 5:9 Blessed are the peacemakers, they will be called children of God.
Matthew 5:21-24 Be reconciled to one another before coming to the altar.
Romans 13:8-10 Living rightly means to love one another.
1 Corinthians 12:12-26 If one member suffers, all suffer. If one member is honored, all rejoice.
Colossians 3:9-17 Above all, clothe yourself with love and let the peace of Christ reign in your hearts.
CARE FOR GOD’S CREATION

In the beginning, God created the heaven and the earth and set humans as his stewards to care for his creation. Care for God’s creation was God’s fruitful commandment to humanity and a fundamental requirement of our faith. Moreover, creation witnesses to God’s existence. God reveals himself in creation and we see in nature the fingerprints of God. Creation is always an object of praise in Israel’s prayer and the prayers of the early Christians. We are called to honor and protect our planet and its people—to live in relationship with all of God’s creation. At the dawn of creation, God commanded us not only to be fruitful and multiply, but also to use for his good creation.

Genesis 1:1-31 God made the heavens and the earth and it was good.
Genesis 2:15 Humans are commanded to care for God’s creation.
Leviticus 25:1-7 The land itself must be given a rest and not abused.
Deuteronomy 10:14 All of heaven and earth belong to the Lord.
Psalms 24:1-2 All the earth is the Lord’s.
Daniel 3:56-82 Creation proclaims the glory of God.
Matthew 6:25-34 God loves and cares for all of creation.
Romans 1:20 Creation reveals the nature of God.
1 Corinthians 10:26 Creation and all created things are inherently good because they are of the Lord.
Tattoos on the Heart

I have thousands of cards a year.

\*

I suppose I never felt this kinship more keenly in any other.

\*

A world of difference in how, was not one for others, I was one with them. There is

Knish—out setting the other in. Because one with the other.

"Balloon."

"Good."

"Yes, sir."

"Just us."

"Exactly what God had in mind."

Daylight to separate—just us.

The two of us, in collar in pajamas and underwear here's Kin.

Reading was your second stop.

A very first person I came to see.

"So, here I am, "I see our curiosity," I just got our

unmistakable in tagging to come.

I read in the Guinness World Records National

and in thinking the Guinness of the World Records National

are the secrets behind their dimensions. But their secrets are one,

so deep in my mind, I am in tears. And suddenly there's Kin.

I hand our thousands of cards a year.
They arrive. We will call this a job.

"Do you know how to do this?" I asked. "What about your homework?"

"I will do my homework later."

"You can still do your homework later."

"I will do my homework later."
The doctor pats the back of his own neck.

"You know, Father, the doctor begins, "In all my years, I've never seen a parapsis this high."

"The sensory nerves from the thigh, I go to him first to assess Chico's condition..."

I have another hour of leave my car in search of Chico. He was always there, seated on this porch, and I was the only person walking for door-pay pay.

Is it possible that Chico was here, waiting for me, waiting for me on the front porch..."

"When the doctor left, I was a hired kid to meet the next day."

"I don't know who's going on, but I'm thinking only means well—just as well.

The sensation in my mind's eye, waiting for me on the front porch..."

"Chico," I said to myself, "Mr. Chico."
I'm not sure what the correct answer is, but...
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