



Community Service 2020

Good Morning Everyone,

This email is about your Community Service this year. Now more than ever it is important that the community rallies together to support each other, however that support will look different that it has in previous years.

As a result of the Covid 19 virus many of the service opportunities we would offer you at or through the College are not currently available. The last thing we want is for you to put yourself or others at risk of spreading the virus, particularly to those who are already in need of care. Therefore, I am asking you to challenge yourself to think differently and to try a new approach to your service this year.

The early Christian writer Tertullian noted that Christians stood out in their communities, as a group of people who loved and cared for each other. Their love could be seen and felt and it was practical: they took care of those in need in the community, the sick, the widows, the orphans and the stranger. Those who saw their acts of compassion and their love could not help but be moved by what they saw. This type of Christian love exists today and its ability to influence everyone who sees it is just as powerful as was in those early communities. At this time when so many things are different, we (all members of the Lumen community) are called to be the living Church, that means that each of us is called to play our part in caring for others and helping those that are in need.

Over the coming weeks, you can fulfil your community service by demonstrating a care for others in different ways, here are some ideas.

1. You can help out in your home – do some chores without being asked, do something to a better level than you would, see something that needs to be done and do it without being asked.
2. Demonstrate care for someone you know who might be vulnerable – Call someone who lives alone, ask them if they are ok. Cook a meal or bake a cake and leave it for someone, offer to write a letter for someone who might not be able to anymore (this could be done over the phone).
3. Sort through your own things – are there things you no longer use that you could donate to someone experiencing tough times?
4. Think differently – try to put yourself in the shoes of others during this time, think of ways you can offer your skills and talents.
5. Do some research into organisations that exist to help others at this time, send some emails enquiring how you might be able to contribute.

I know that for some of you finding service opportunities will be difficult this year, so I have reduced the number of required hours to 5 hours. You will still however, be required to complete a reflection on your service and submit it through the form on the SEQTA Homepage.

I've added here some words of encouragement from a great man for others, St Ignatius Loyola,

Love consists in sharing
what one has



and what one is
with those one loves.

Love is showing itself in deeds
more than in words.

—*St. Ignatius of Loyola*

Please email if you have any questions or concerns about what is required.

Ms Watson