

# Christian Service Reflections

2006-2007



“If you want peace, work for justice.” Pope Paul VI

These reflections are to be done after you have completed your service for the year, or at least after you have completed a majority of it. Reflections need to be at minimum two pages typed and double spaced. The deadline is the same as the last deadline for hours: **May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2007**. (unless you want to be considered for awards, in which case it is March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2007).

This year you are asked to **pick** a quote below (you may choose two), **reflect** upon the meaning, **connect** it to the service that you provided those in need, and **describe** how your service has changed you in some way. Remember, your service is to be working directly with those that are marginalized, in need, or disadvantaged in some way. Your service should be done with the children, economically poor, the elderly, the physically/developmentally/mentally disabled, the sick or suffering, refugees, or for the care of the environment.

## **Here are some helpful questions to ask yourself as you write your reflection.**

- What does this quote mean?
- How does it relate to Catholic Social Teaching? (refer to link on Christian Service website)
- Describe the service you did and include any significant events.
- How did you make God’s love visible to those that you served?
- Did anything about your service connect to what you’ve explored in theology?
- Why did you choose the service you did?
- Did you learn anything about the people whom you served?

## **\*\*\*Christian Service Quotes\*\*\***

1. *The guarantee of one's prayer is not in saying a lot of words. The guarantee of one's petition is very easy to know: How do I treat the poor? Because that is where God is. The degree to which you approach them, or the scorn with which you approach them—that is how you approach your God. What you do to them, you do to God. The way you look at them is the way you look at God.* Archbishop Oscar Romero
2. *A rabbi entered a room in his home and saw his son deep in prayer. In the corner stood a cradle with a crying baby. The rabbi asked his son, "Can't you hear? There's a baby crying in this room." The son said, "Father, I was lost in God." And the rabbi said, "One who is lost in God can see the very fly crawling up the wall."* --Abel Herzberg
3. *If you want peace, work for justice.* --Pope Pius VI
4. *Reading the Bible with the eyes of the poor is a different thing from reading it with a full belly. If it is read in the light of the experience and hopes of the oppressed, the Bible's revolutionary themes—promise, exodus, resurrection, and spirit—come alive.* --Jurgen Moltmann
5. *When we deal with each other, we should do so with the sense of awe that arises in the presence of something holy and sacred. For that is what human beings are: we are created in the image of God.* --National Conference of Catholic Bishops, *Economic Justice for All*, no. 28.
6. *Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world; indeed it's the only thing that ever has.* --Anthropologist Margaret Mead.
7. *The future will be different if we make the present different."* - Peter Maurin
8. *You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. People do not light a lamp and then put it under a bushel basket. They set it on a stand where it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, your light must shine before others so that they may see your good deeds and give praise to your heavenly creator.* --Matthew 5: 14-16

