

Catherine Broering - Saint Ignatius of Loyola- McAuley

As a part of my everyday life, I try to help others as much as I can. Growing up, I was inspired by my mother. She showed me that it does not take much to help those in need. When I do good deeds for those in need, it makes me feel good, too.

As a young girl, my Great Aunt lived at my house. She used a wheelchair to transport herself around. I helped her by doing her laundry, I guided her wheelchair into the different rooms of my house, and I kept her company throughout the day. When I helped my Great Aunt, I not only was of service to her, but I also learned that helping others can be fun. My Great Aunt was an artist, and in return of my services, she would create special artworks for me. My Great Aunt passed away at the age of 113, as the twenty-first oldest living person in the world. During her younger years, she helped so many people. I believe that she was a role model for the service that I complete today.

When I was ten years old, my mother, Rose, was diagnosed with lung cancer. She helped me throughout my childhood. I tried to return that favor when she became very sick. I helped her with everyday chores, assisted with cooking meals, and tried to stay positive with her. My mom never complained. She remained strong, even through the hard times. During her sickness, she still continued doing service for others. I helped her take care of my Grandpa on most days of the week. We also babysat for my cousin and my nephew. My mom was a big part of my life. She passed away in March, 2013. My mom proved to me that doing service does not have to stop, even when you are sick. She let nothing get in her way, and she still did good deeds for others. I hope that I will always be like her.

Catherine Broering - Saint Ignatius of Loyola- McAuley, page 2 of 2

Every day, I go to my Grandma's house after school. She is 99 years old. I aid her and keep her company. I also assist my Grandma during meals by helping feed her. She has dementia, and can forget things easily. I try to help her to understand what is going on around her. My Grandma helped me a lot when I was younger. She would play with me and teach me things. I attempt to return the acts of kindness that she did for me.

Other forms of service that I do are babysitting a few days a week for my oldest sister's two boys, and helping out with school affairs. I am a student ambassador, and I lead families around Saint Ignatius and tell them about my school. Also, I help teach younger kids Irish Dancing every Wednesday. I demonstrate and teach steps to the kids, and then I prepare them for Irish Dancing events that are later in the year. On my summer vacation, I helped with a volleyball camp for younger children. I watched them practice their skills, and then showed them new techniques. Lastly, I enjoy visiting the Ronald McDonald House. I went there with my friends and prepared cookies for the families who were living there. It felt good to be lending a hand to the families with sick children.

Thank you for offering this opportunity for a scholarship to the 8th Grade students. I think that it is wonderful that you are awarding students for the acts of kindness that they perform.