

Eve Cooper- Saint William- Seton High School

My name is Eve Cooper and I attend Saint William School. It is my hope that I have and continue to affect people in my life in a positive way. I have a great family. It includes my parents and three siblings. My mom has signs all over our house that read as follows, "Because Nice Matters," and, "To the world you may be just one person, but to one person you may be the world." I have always been encouraged to be kind to others and to carry Jesus' message out to the world.

I have received the "peacemaker" award several times through my years at Saint William School. I felt uncomfortable the first time I received it because I felt like I was doing nothing unusual. It was normal to help others. I believe that we should always reach out to others in need.

I enjoy visiting the sick. I frequently visit the retired Sisters of Charity at Mother Margaret Hall. I love talking with them and hearing their fascinating stories. I find it rewarding to help them with their needs. I play bingo with them and read to them. Some of the sisters I have met taught at Saint William many years ago. I want them to know that they are appreciated and have not been forgotten.

I am the oldest of four children. I try to set a good example for them. I serve Sunday mass, weddings, and funerals. I also work the fish fries and pancake breakfasts. I help set up for the parish festival every summer. Occasionally, I help work with St. Vincent DePaul. I want them to see how important it is to be involved in church.

Everyday I try to help people, whether it is holding the door for someone, reading mail for a blind sister, giving a hug to a lonely person, or helping babysit a neighbor's child when they are struggling. Towards the end of my seventh grade year, our school counselor asked me and six other girls to help by starting a group to end bullying. At the moment, we are dealing with a situation where there are problems in the second grade, so every week we speak with them as a group about how to be a kind person and live a good life. I feel that the group is doing a wonderful job with being a rolemodel for the younger grades. After every session that we have I always feel like a better person because I know that my group and I are making a big difference in the school.

Recently my grandmother passed away. Before she passed, I spent a lot of time with her. I tried to help her in any possible way that I could. She had a oxygen tank on her at all times, so it was very hard for her to do things on her own. I would clean her apartment, get her mail, help her walk, and give her a hug when she was sad and discouraged.

There is a quote from Mother Teresa that is special to me. I read it often in my bedroom and try to carry it out in my own life. It is as follows: "Let no one ever come to you without leaving better and happier. Be the living expression of God's kindness: kindness in your face, kindness in your eyes, kindness in your smile." This is how I have attempted to affect all people in my life.