

## **Emily Giglio- St. William – Seton High School**

My name is Emily Giglio and I am an eighth grader at St. William School. Next year, I plan on attending Seton High School.

Helping others has always been something that I feel I was called to do. Even if what I do is not significant, it still affects that person and can change the course of their life. It feels good to know that something I did impacted someone's life so much. I really do feel that one person can make a change and I plan on helping wherever I am needed until the world is a better place.

A little over a month ago, my mom and I were out shopping and we noticed a young woman holding a sign while standing on a corner. The sign read, "Homeless, please help!". I told my mom that I wished we could help her somehow. When we got home, we sat down and tried to think of ways we could help, not only her, but others like her. What we came up with was making "care bags". These bags are filled with some things that homeless people might need to help make their life a little less cumbersome. Some items we put in these bags are a bar of soap, a toothbrush and toothpaste, chapstick, a comb, a granola bar and an apple, and a pair of socks. Ever since then, whenever we go out we have a few bags in the car in case we see a person who might need one. Even though it's not a lot, we want that person to know that we see them, and we care about them.

I also recently had the opportunity to help a woman and her two children who had been homeless for a while. They recently moved into an apartment and realized that they needed some things to make it a home. I didn't think twice about helping them because I

knew that the things I take for granted every day: clean clothes to wear, soap to wash with, a warm comfy bed, food to eat - were not available to everyone. I came to the realization that this family could be my family if our circumstances changed. I would want someone to help us. I called around to some friends and family and asked for donations. I collected a lot of things for them, such as lamps, dishes, blankets, pillows and even cleaning supplies. It really felt great to know I helped in a small way to make their life better.

Performing a service is rewarding not only to the person receiving the help, but to me as well. I feel every time I help someone and do it without the expectation of something in return, I am one step closer to living my life as Jesus intended me to live. I will continue throughout my life to help wherever and whenever I am needed. I plan on joining the service club in high school next year and can't wait for the many opportunities this will bring me to help people and bring about change in the world.