

## **Sally Bishop – Holy Trinity – Notre Dame Academy**

Thank you for the opportunity to submit an essay for the Aubrey Rose Educational Scholarship. My name is Sally Bishop and I am 13 years old and attend Holy Trinity Junior High School in Newport, Kentucky.

My first experience with the Aubrey Rose Foundation was when I was nine years old and participated in the American Girl Fashion Show at Music Hall. I remember being so excited about getting dressed up and modeling in front of the large audience. I had so much fun and still remember meeting another “model”. We became instant friends. In the weeks before the fashion show, my parents shared with me the story of Aubrey and how through all of her medical complications she still managed to smile. I smiled as big as I could on the runway and to this day I still make sure to share a smile with everyone I meet.

I enjoy helping others. I have become very involved in our church, Holy Spirit. For two years I have been helping clean our church by dusting, sweeping and polishing the furniture. My parents and I became greeters for Sunday morning mass last year. I enjoy saying “good morning” and holding the door for the parishioners as they enter the church. Now as a habit, I also hold the door open for others no matter where I go. Often, my teachers ask me to read at our school mass and I volunteer to read when I am not asked.

My parents have been in charge of the kitchen for Breakfast with Santa at St. Bernard Parish in Dayton, Kentucky for eight years. I wanted to help too and decided to recruit three of my cousins who live in Cincinnati to help. We help serve pancakes, sausage and pour milk for the kids and also help with dishes. We really enjoy watching the kids get excited when Santa arrives. Now my cousins start calling me at Thanksgiving asking for the next Breakfast with Santa date.

Two years ago, I began “free” babysitting for people in need. I enjoy reading to the kids and playing with them and feel really good about helping the parents. Now my parents and I are in the process of becoming a family mentor to a young child who lives at the Diocesan Catholic Children’s Home in Ft. Mitchell, Kentucky.

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My mom and I began making “buckets of sunshine” for family, friends or friends of friends who are sick with cancer or who have recently lost a loved one. The buckets are filled with positive quotes for the person to read each day. They buckets are bright and colorful and take some time to make. We enjoy reading the quotes together every time we make them & hope they bring needed joy to a person who is going through a difficult time.

We had a neighbor who has no family and has mental illness and is very different. We didn't know her well because she was extremely shy. She came over to our house last year and asked my mom for help because she was really sick. She ended up in the hospital and ever since then my family has become a big part of her life. When we had her over for dinner, I helped make dinner and tried to help her feel comfortable. She stops by often now and I sit and talk with her & visit. My family and I visited with her on Christmas Day since she was alone. She used to be so lonely, but now I hope I have made a positive impact in her life.

Thanks again for this opportunity to be considered for this scholarship. I take my Catholic education seriously and know the sacrifices my parents make for me to have a great education. I know this scholarship would be a big help.

Sally Bishop