

Carly Feazell - St. Vivian - Roger Bacon High School

Have you ever done something for someone else, feeling like they have affected your life in an incredible way? That's how I feel every time I help another person. I feel complete joy when it comes to helping people. I might be helping them, but they are helping me to be a better person and learning something about myself. I'm Carly Feazell, and I like to do service activities and acts of kindness for others. Like going to Kids Club, Matthew 25: Ministries, helping families during the Christmas season, feeding the less fortunate, serving at my church, and simply being a friend to others. I go to St. Vivian School, and have been going there for nine years. I think St. Vivian has pushed me to be a better person and do good deeds. I try my hardest to be the best person I can be by partaking in these accomplishments.

Kid's Club is an afterschool program I go to with some of my classmates. It is at Our Daily Bread Soup Kitchen, in downtown Cincinnati. There, we hang out with children who may not have a safe place to go after school. They eat a snack and when they're done, we play fun activities or make crafts with them. The children enjoy our company and get so excited when we walk in. Some kids there might not have many friends or good guidance at home, so they look to us to be their friends. A couple of them need assistance with their homework, and we like to help them out with it as quickly as possible so we can have fun reading a book or playing with toys. I have fun learning their names and what they like to do. Though we might not be helping in a big way, they really appreciate our presence. In fact, they help me realize I should be happy for what I have, considering they don't have much. They show me that you need to enjoy the little things in life.

Another place I like to volunteer at is Matthew 25: Ministries. I can help sort clothes, make soap and deodorant, make packages for victims of natural disasters, and so much more. I like to go there because you can do so little, but still do so much. The people who work there help by sending these kinds of things to places or people in need around the world. That is why I like to go and give my time by helping out.

I also like to help needy families during the Christmas season. There is this nice lady who tries really hard to get her children presents for Christmas, but has financial difficulties. She is a single mom and works two jobs just so she can support her family. I met her through my grandmother. They work together and my grandma told me to go through my old toys and clothes and pick things out I might not want anymore. Right away, I went in the basement and picked out many things I won't ever use again. Every

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year this single mom is very grateful with what my family and I give her. I love the feeling of doing something small and making someone smile.

In my neighborhood, there is a soup kitchen where people can go to get a free meal if they can't afford one. I go and help serve food to these friendly people just because I love to see their faces light up. It might not be a big deal to them if I'm there or not, but I think it's nice to share a smile or ask them how their day is going. To some people, it's the highlight of their day.

I also serve at my church: I assist the priest and deacon, I am an usher, I collect any prayer offerings and also as a Eucharistic minister, I distribute the Body and Blood of Christ. If you are not Catholic, you are still welcomed to come up and be blessed during Communion. I do these things because I like to be a part of my church and help out in various ways.

I have a friend named Olivia, who has special needs. She can't talk, walk on her own, or eat normally, but she is just the same as everyone else. She is the funniest girl you'll meet, kind-hearted, and has so much love for everyone she meets. I don't really think of it as helping when you just want to be nice to others, but I have heard from people that just being a friend can help someone greatly. Her parents have told me that they appreciate me being her friend and always being there for her. She has really taught me to be a happier person. She has impacted so many people and everyone just loves to be around her. So if playing with her and being her friend is helping her, she's helping me.

In conclusion, I might have not done as many service projects for others, but I strive to be a better person and I hope in the future I can really impact more lives. I love to do things for others, and I feel if I get in the habit of helping people, then maybe one day I will do something great for someone. I know at Roger Bacon, I will join many clubs and extracurricular activities, not only to participate in my school community, but to provide service for others.