



Community Service Information

At Bishop Kearney we believe that community service plays an integral part of the spiritual and social growth of our students. Throughout the four years of high school students must perform at least seventy-five hours of service. Students must complete these hours to graduate from Bishop Kearney. We believe that through our service to our community we are able to fulfill the mission of Edmund Rice and help to create a better society.

The mission of Bishop Kearney high school is to empower all students to reach their full potential academically, spiritually, and socially. We believe that by requiring that all of our students to perform community service, they are better able to reach this potential and have a positive impact on our society.

In addition, the seven essential elements of an Edmund Rice education have a direct correlation with community service. Specifically, standing in solidarity with those marginalized by poverty and injustice ties directly back to the School Sisters of Notre Dame and the Irish Christian Brothers. Both of these groups took it upon themselves to work with community members who needed the most support. In keeping with this tradition, all Bishop Kearney students will spend a portion of their community service hours working with the poor and the marginalized of our society.

What counts as community service?

Community service includes any work completed without monetary payment. The work can be completed for not-for-profit organizations that are recognized by New York State, even an individual as long as that person is not a family member.

The community service may be completed at any time during the school year or over the summer. All Bishop Kearney students are required to complete seventy-five hours of service during their high school career. These hours can be started during the summer before freshman year and must be finished by May 31st of each year.

Bishop Kearney Community Service Requirements

MIDDLE SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS

All Middle School students are required to perform five hours of community service per academic year. Students may work individually or in groups to complete this service. Students should talk to their middle school teachers or reach out to their local church/parish for ideas for ways they can provide service to our local community. Work for Boy/Girl Scouts and altar serving in your church communities are not eligible for community service hours

Click [HERE](#) to submit your hours



IX NINTH GRADE – *LAUDATO SI' IX*

All freshmen must complete at least 10 hours of service. 5 of your minimum 10 hours must come from some type of environmental work based on Pope Francis' *Laudato Si'* - Care for our Common Home. Your volunteer time should be dedicated to protecting natural resources. Examples of this type of service include helping at recycling events; participating in cleanup our parks, river or lake front opportunities; volunteering at a community garden that donates the produce to food cupboards; or a sponsored road cleanup event. Of the remaining 5 hours **no more than three** should be dedicated to serving our Bishop Kearney community. Work for Boy/Girl Scouts and alter serving in your church communities are not eligible for community service hours

Click [HERE](#) to submit your hours

X TENTH GRADE – *OPERA CORPORALIS MISERICORDIAE X*

All sophomores must complete at least 15 hours of service. 7 hours of your minimum 15 must be focused around the Corporal Works of Mercy. The Corporal Works of Mercy are actions we can perform that extend God's compassion and mercy to those in need. These acts by which we help our neighbors with their material and physical needs, stressing compassion for the homeless, sick and marginalized. Examples of this type of service include helping at a clothing drive or distribution; collecting, stocking or distributing goods for a local food cupboard, or volunteering at a hospital, nursing home. Of the remaining 8 hours **no more than four** should be dedicated to serving our Bishop Kearney community. Work for Boy/Girl Scouts and alter serving in your church communities are not eligible for community service hours

Click [HERE](#) to submit your hours

XI ELEVENTH GRADE XI

All juniors must complete at least 20 hours of service. Ten of these hour must be focused toward helping the poor and marginalized of the Rochester area. Examples of this type of service include assisting food cupboards, soup kitchens, volunteering at a hospital or nursing home, or working with the homeless. Of the remaining 10 hours, **no more than five** should be dedicated to serving our Bishop Kearney community. Work for Boy/Girl Scouts and alter serving in your church communities are not eligible for community service hours.

Click [HERE](#) to submit your hours

XII TWELFTH GRADE XII

All seniors must complete at least 30 hours of service. Most of these hours will come from a senior capstone project which will be completed in conjunction with your Social Justice class. Students are encouraged to go above and beyond the thirty hours of required service. Work for Boy/Girl Scouts and alter serving in your church communities are not eligible for community service hours

Click [HERE](#) to submit your hours



Community Service Awards and Recognitions

JAMES E. KEARNEY SERVICE RECOGNITION AWARD

This award is presented to all seniors who have completed 100 or more hours of community service during their 9th-12th grade year. These students will be recognized at commencement for their service to our community.

EDMUND RICE AWARD

This award is presented to the senior boy who has completed the highest number of hours during their 9th-12th grade year. This student will be honored at commencement for their service to our community.

SCHOOL SISTERS OF NOTRE DAME AWARD

This award is presented to the senior girl who has completed the highest number of hours during their 9th-12th grade year. This student will be honored at commencement for their service to our community.

Documenting your Service Hours

To receive credit for your service to our community, students must submit their hours through the Bishop Kearney website. All submitted activities are reviewed and confirmed by the Religion Department.

Failure to complete the service requirement and all of its components has the same penalty as failure to complete any school requirement for graduation: a student will not be allowed to participate in commencement activities nor will they receive a Bishop Kearney diploma or transcript until the requirement is met.

Click [HERE](#) to submit your hours