

ANNE PACE
ST. TERESA OF AVILA

Hi, my name is Anne Pace. I am an eighth grader at St. Teresa of Avila School. I am excited about attending Seton High School next year and exploring many new opportunities. I think the most important way you can affect others is by keeping a positive attitude about life and what God has given you. I have always tried to reach out and be kind to others during my years at St. Teresa. It might not always be in a big way, but doing small things can add up to have a huge positive effect. I try to cheer people up when they are down, share things with others if they need something, be cheerful and kind to everyone I come into contact with, and welcome a new student with a smile. In everyday life I strive to be generous and giving towards others.

I have also affected others by volunteering in different ways over the years. Some of the things I have done is helped at Winter Wonderland in the Santa Shop and also sorted gifts for the Giving Tree. During school, I would come in at recess to help the teachers and secretaries in the office. Over the summers, I volunteered at Vacation Bible School and watered flowers outside of school. I also serve mass and have donated my hair to Locks of Love. At home, I try to help my parents around the house, so they won't have as much work. I also often visit my grandma and grandpa because we enjoy spending time together.

Some of my favorite things I have done recently are helping the residents at the Ronald McDonald House. I save all of my pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House in a container I made for the kitchen counter. When I collect enough, I drop the tabs off at the Ronald McDonald House. This past summer, my mom, my sisters and I made baked goods for the families staying at the Ronald McDonald House. We made muffins, coffee cakes, pumpkin bread and banana bread so the families could have something fresh and homemade for breakfast. This gives the families one less thing to worry about during this very stressful and overwhelming time. While working on my Marian Award for Girl Scouts, I made fleece blankets and wrapped Christmas presents to take to the Ronald McDonald House. I think they will appreciate the fleece blankets because it will give them warmth and comfort, especially since they are so far away from home. In addition to the blankets, they received a mug with a hot chocolate mix, chocolate candy, and a candy cane. There were enough mugs for every mom and dad staying at the Ronald McDonald House. We took the gifts in boxes so that the residents would not see them until December 25! I hope that they enjoyed their Christmas gifts!

One other thing that I love doing which I believe affects others around me, is making homemade cards. I make Thank You cards, Birthday cards, Christmas cards, and many other kinds. For the past few years I have been making cards for people around me to show how much I care for them and appreciate their kind actions. It makes me feel good when I see the smiles on my grandma's, great aunt's, and other's faces when they open one of my cards. Their smile shows me that they appreciate my thoughtfulness as well as I appreciate theirs.

After hearing Aubrey's inspiring story, it is incredible to me to see all the positive ways she has affected so many people over these past ten years. She continues to put smiles on many faces even though she has never met them. My birthday is also on November 12, and I am extremely honored to share a birthday with such a special angel, Aubrey.