

## BRITTANY MULDOON

### ST. SUSANNA

I have made a difference in peoples' lives through many different types of service. In performing these acts of service, I have learned a lot about what Catholics are called to do and I've become more aware of what is going on around me.

One type of service I have done is worked the concessions stand at my sister's basketball games. I'm sure my parents especially appreciated this because since they weren't working, they could focus on the games. I think my sister appreciated it too, because she always wanted Mom and Dad to watch her, but she didn't care if I watched her, so it made sense to do it that way.

I also worked at the Butterfly Walk for Cancer for Kids. I learned about how serious and common cancer really is in children my age and even younger. It was fun because there were so many different activities there, and I worked with some friends from my soccer team. We showed people we were willing to help out and cared. Everyone there appreciated our efforts. There was a walk which started the day. It was awesome to see all the people who cared so much about the kids suffering from cancer. It makes you ask what the world would be like if everyone cared as much as those people did.

I have babysat multiple times. The first time I babysat, I was really nervous, but after the night was over, I wanted to go back and do it again because I had so much fun. Babysitting is fun because you get to play with the kids and it is nice to get to know them. When I babysat again for the same family, their mom told me the kids were excited for me to come, and it made me feel great and it told me that I had done a good job the last time. The parents appreciated it because if they couldn't get a babysitter, they couldn't go out and do whatever they had to do. It also showed the family that I would always be there to help them when they need it.

Our parish has a festival to raise money, which I worked. I enjoyed doing something for my parish because it does so much for me. I parked cars at the festival. This helped because if people couldn't find a parking spot, I could find one and direct them into it. This kept cars from wandering aimlessly around the parking lot. It also made the parking lot safer because we directed the cars while they were entering and exiting so they wouldn't have any accidents. I also helped clean up after the festival was over by picking up trash, taking down booths, and putting things away. It was a lot of fun because I did it with all my friends. The people on the festival committee were especially thankful because they didn't have to do all the work, it didn't take as long, and it showed people that the St. Susanna eighth grade class was always willing to help. It was also nice to see the parking lots and everything cleaned up for school the next day because I knew the hard work had paid off.

I have also made a difference in peoples' lives at school. In Religion class once, I affirmed a girl in my class for helping me carry my chair project for art class to put it away since it was still wet with paint. I felt bad after she helped me because she had gotten paint all over her clothes, and it was the kind of paint that doesn't wash out. She was really surprised when I affirmed her in Religion class, and she turned around with a big smile on her face and whispered, "Thank you," to me. You could tell she was happy. It was nice to see her so happy, and knowing that I caused it made it a lot better, too. I have helped people at school with their homework, too. When my friends don't understand something, they always come to me for help. I help them by explaining what the directions mean, by helping them figure out how to do a math problem, telling them what a word means, or telling them what the assignment is if they forgot to write it down. This is fun because I get to spend time with friends and I help them to do well on the assignments. Also, our school is organizing a program in which eighth graders get to help younger students with homework they are having trouble with. I volunteered to help, and in a few days I will be helping second graders with adding and subtracting during my Monday study hall time. I am really looking forward to it because I love working with little kids. Also, if I had an older student to help me with math in second grade, I probably would have done so much better than I did. All the people at school appreciate this because it helps both the students and the teachers.

I am also involved in the Church. I am a server and a Eucharistic minister. It is fun to be involved in the parish because I get to meet and work with new people.

In conclusion, I have made a difference in peoples' lives by performing acts of service. I have learned a lot from offering my assistance, and it has been so much fun. I plan to continue to try the best I can to help the people around me. I love doing service because it makes me feel good about myself, and it makes other people feel good as well.