



Passion for the Mission

9th Grade

Minimum required hours for Apostolic Works: 15 Hours

The Purpose

The purpose of *Passion for the Mission* is to help our students discern their gifts that are at the deepest level of their heart. This is an important element as a part of living out their passion. When we consider the role of Mary in Scripture and the life of Jesus, we more frequently see her as one who listens to God, stays in the background, and displays a more reflective, even contemplative stance. These are accurate descriptions that are an essential dimension of Mary's role. Yet, she is the woman who fearlessly stood at the foot of the cross. Though the disciples had all fled, she stood in solidarity with the suffering Jesus and in turn, allowed us to see her passion: *to show the world her Son, Jesus Christ*. Therefore, *Passion for the Mission* is not simply a work of service and contemplation; it is a work of the heart that connects our passion with what our community needs in order to nurture compassion, justice, and peace, showing Christ to the world.

Objectives

1. Students will foster an increased connection to the value of the CME of Service, Justice, and Peace.
2. Students will learn how to discover their gifts that they are most passionate about through a discernment process.
3. Students will enhance their knowledge and value of service as a means for *Passion for the Mission* by reflecting upon the qualities of Mary as a compassionate, just, and loving Mother.
4. Students will develop social skills that will enhance their deeper sense of self.
5. Students will demonstrate an increased sense of vocation and lead them to further their passion in serving the needs of their Apostolic Works.
6. Students will affect a positive change in their Apostolic Works.

Guidelines

FIRST SEMESTER

1. Students will engage in a discernment process in their Religion class at the beginning of the year in order to discover the gifts for which they are most passionate.
2. Students will reflect upon their gifts and research a non-profit organization where they will apply them in their Apostolic Works.
3. Students will develop an *Action Plan* in their Religion class that will demonstrate the following:
 - a. Their understanding of *Passion for the Mission* and its relevance to the area that they have chosen (*Include information about the site: issues, challenges, needs, and examination of their preconceptions and assumptions*).
 - b. How their gifts will be applied to their Apostolic Works.
 - c. The goals that they desire to meet in their Apostolic Works.

Students will submit their *Action Plan* to their Religion teacher as a graded assignment by mid--September.

4. Students will be commissioned at the Apostolic Works Liturgy that is scheduled in September.
5. Students will apply their gifts to their Apostolic Works. Tracking and verification of hours will be done through Naviance/x2VOL
6. Students will fulfill a minimum of **7.5 hours of service by the Semester 1 due date**. Students will record service through Naviance/x2VOL for tracking and reflection purposes.

SECOND SEMESTER

1. *Progress Monitoring*: Service Learning engages students in an ongoing process to assess their Apostolic Works and progress toward meeting their specified goals from their *Action Plan*. Therefore, students will engage in reflection/processing as deemed appropriate through their Religion class.
2. Students will continue to contribute their gifts to their Apostolic Works and will fulfill, record, and have verified their remaining **7.5 hours of service by the Semester 2 due date** through Naviance/x2VOL.
3. Upon completion of hours, students will write a 1-2 page *Final Reflection* paper in their Religion class that will consist of the following:
 - a. The Apostolic Works site, its mission, and issue(s) at hand.
 - b. Its relevance to the purpose of *Passion for the Mission*.
 - c. Its relevance to Chaminade's Graduation Outcomes.
 - c. The preconceptions and assumptions they had about their Apostolic Works.
 - d. The service provided to their Apostolic Works and how they have grown as a result of this experience.

Students will submit their *Final Reflection* paper to their Religion teacher as a graded assignment in May. A Reflection cannot be completed if the student has not completed all of their hours.