

What is the Elementary School Day of Service?

The focus of the Annual Elementary School Day of Service is to collect, package and distribute items to sick children and their families in hospitals in Burlington, Mercer, Monmouth and Ocean counties. Additionally, students will be collecting, packaging and distributing candy bags for caregivers (all hospital employees who deal with the children.) We are keeping the focus close to home and highlighting the idea that *kids are helping kids*.



Students from St. Peter, St. Joseph and St. Dominic Schools presenting toys and gift certificates to Children's Specialized Hospital. 2017-18 Day of Service



Students from five Mercer County schools with representatives of Capital Health. 2017-18 Day of Service.

For More Information

- ♥ Contact your parish school office
- ♥ Logon to your parish school website
- ♥ Search your parish school Facebook page
- ♥ Contact Judy Nicastro, Department of Catholic Education, Diocese of Trenton, at jnicas@dioceseoftrenton.org or call 609-403-7217.
- ♥ Visit the Trenton Monitor page at www.trentonmonitor.com to view 2017-18 interviews from students, photo galleries, replay of livestream new conference with the Bishop blessing all gifts
- ♥ Visit the Diocese of Trenton webpage at www.dioceseoftrenton.org

2018-2019
Diocesan Elementary School
Day of Service
Diocese of Trenton



Collections are ongoing
Day of Service is May 3, 2019



Day of Service Facts:

- ♥ This is a cooperative effort by all thirty-one Diocesan elementary schools
- ♥ Twelve hospitals, located throughout the four counties, are participating, including three major children's hospitals. No one school is assigned a hospital. This is a collective effort.
- ♥ As a service learning project, students are learning about childhood illness, proper medical care, and the workings of a hospital, all at age appropriate levels.
- ♥ Focus on God's healing grace is always at the forefront. Students offer daily prayers and masses for hospitalized children.
- ♥ Last year's Day of Service was a great success. Students collected over 10,000 toys and over \$13,200 in gift cards for participating hospitals.

What Can I Do To Help?

- ♥ Pray for sick children and their families.
- ♥ Contact your parish or regional elementary school. Individual schools have various projects with opportunities to help.
- ♥ Drop a toy donation or gift card in the Day of Service collection box located in the church's gathering space.
- ♥ Share the Day of Service on your social media. The more the word gets out, the greater the success. For all social media, please include the hashtags:

#hearts2hospitals

#dotdayofservice2019



Students from all thirty-one elementary schools pose on the steps of the Chancery prior to the 2017-18 Day of Service Press Conference.



Students from five Monmouth County schools with the Chief of Pediatrics at Monmouth Medical Center. 2017-18 Day of Service

From the Hospitals

When a child is focused on learning and playing, and not focused on being sick or injured, they're going to get better faster. Sometimes you just need a teddy bear to hug.

Bill Faverzani, Jersey Shore Medical Center

The gift cards you gave us go to purchase gifts for our long-term care kids . . . Halloween costumes, school clothes . . . You guys are giving these kids everyday experiences.

Alexis D'Anton, Children's Specialized Hospital

It's not just the children you're helping . . . For every child, there's a mom and a dad who are scared.

Amy McLear, Virtual Hospital