

May 13, 2025

Dear Parents/Guardians,

As a junior your daughter will be participating in our Service Learning program next year. The program is part of the requirement for our Junior Theology course. This course is designed to involve a year of service experience in our community. Your daughter will select several types of service that are of interest to her. We will try to place her with an organization which meets her interest, current abilities, and potential. We will encourage the student to consider a service site that might be challenging for her. The purpose of the program is to provide the opportunity for your daughter to use her talents and abilities to help others as well as promote relational and leadership skills within your daughter. Mount St. Mary Academy's vision and the Theology Department's mission statement support the belief that service is fundamental to being a Christian in the modern world.

Our program is unique in that it is designed to allow the student to do service during class time. Each site has been carefully researched, and the student will be under the supervision of a contact person at that particular site. We will personally visit the sites on a rotation basis to observe, assess and answer questions the student or supervisor may have. *Please be informed that the girls are responsible for transportation to and from their assigned sites.*

The majority of our service sites do require one or all of the following: TB test, flu shot, and COVID vaccination. Your daughter will be required to get a TB test done. If your family makes the decision to opt out of your daughter receiving the flu shot or COVID vaccination, service site options for your daughter will be limited. Information regarding these can be found on the back of this letter.

Please note that the TB test (and COVID-vaccination if you choose) should be completed and **returned to school by Welcome Back Day, Aug 12, 2025. Each day the student is late turning in her TB test results will cause her to lose grade points. Therefore, it is imperative that your student bring her TB test results to Welcome Back Day or mail/deliver it to the school during the summer.** Don't wait on this.

We are looking forward to what we believe will be a positive learning experience for your daughter and a wonderful experience for our service sites as well. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call or email me.

In Mercy and Blessings,

Lauren Lawrence (llawrence@mtstmary.edu)
Service Learning Coordinator

TB Test, COVID vaccination, and Flu shot Information:

The Junior Theology course at Mount St. Mary is our Service Learning Program. Your daughter will be assigned to a service site in the community. Many of these sites require a TB test, COVID vaccination, and/or flu shot.

Mount St. Mary Academy **requires** that **all junior students** obtain and bring to school a current TB test results notification. Each medical facility has a different way of annotating the TB test results. Some have forms; others, a letter. Whatever is provided must have the following information on it: office where test was administered, patient name and results, date of test, and signature of the person administering the test. Generally there is a cost involved, but it should be minimal. Only **one TB test** is required, but please understand that the TB test process takes several days and two visits by the patient – one for the administration of the serum and one (three days later) for the reading of the test. Do not delay in getting this done. Testing may begin now through either your family physician or various clinics. The Health Department no longer does public TB testing.

COVID vaccinations can be obtained through your family physician or various clinics. Some service sites may require the COVID booster also.

The flu shot is not an option until later this fall. Mount St. Mary does provide a flu shot clinic. A flu shot may also be obtained through your family physician or various clinics. Information about the Mount St. Mary clinic will be sent out as soon as it is available.

Reminder: All TB test results(required) and COVID vaccinations(optional) must be turned in on or before Welcome Day (August 12). Students will lose points for late TB test results.

Return to:
Lauren Lawrence
3224 Kavanaugh Blvd
Little Rock, AR 72205

****Note: Do not email your test results.** They must be mailed or delivered to the school during the summer or brought to Welcome Back Day.