

Serve and Learn Collection – Experience Reflection Sample

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Date of experience: December 10, 2020

Type of experience: Service

Location of experience: St. Joseph Church

Description of experience (paragraph explaining the details of service or enrichment activity, people involved, and any other important information):

This service experience was delivering gifts dropped off for the Giving Tree from the gathering area to the meeting room for storage until they get sorted. Our church has a Giving Tree every year at Christmas where families can take one or more tags to purchase something for someone in need, usually in our local community. They bring their purchased gifts to church and return them under the tree. Then, people at the church sort them and deliver them to the right places. Today, I helped move the gifts to a safe place until they can get organized.

Explanation of how the experience impacted others (those involved in serving and those being served):

I think the experience impacted others a lot because there were so many gifts! People who bought the gifts probably felt good to be able to help those in need, and maybe it made them grateful that they have enough to be able to give to someone else. Also, the people who will receive the gifts will be grateful to receive something for Christmas when maybe they otherwise would not have. One more thing, I think the people organizing this great project appreciated the help in moving the gifts because it went fast with lots of hands working.

Explanation of how the experience affected you personally and what you learned from the experience:

I was affected by the number of gifts. It was pretty amazing to see how generous our church is. I felt like I was part of the giving just by helping in the process. Maybe I didn't do much, but it made me realize how many people there are who need our help right now.

Your thoughts on whether or not you would select to do this type of experience in the future and why or why not:

I will do this kind of service again because I felt good helping other people, and I think it is important to give what you can give. The gift, the sorting, the delivery – all of it is important to the final result of helping get things to people who need them.

Adding a photo from the experience is optional:

