



Niagara Catholic School Serves Community in Day of Caring

Students of Niagara Catholic Jr./Sr. High School in Niagara Falls went out into their neighborhood recently to spend a day carrying out the Corporal Works of Mercy. They fed the hungry at soup kitchens, visited the sick at senior centers, and gave alms to the poor at community missions.

Nearly 200 volunteers visited 20 different sites to understand the needs of others from various cultures, ages and socioeconomic backgrounds. The Day of Caring, now in its fourth year, also introduces students to the importance of service.

Six students and a teacher headed to the St. Gianna Molla Pregnancy Outreach Center to pack clothes for disadvantaged families.

"We're sorting baby clothes and making baskets for mothers in need. I like it. I have a lot of babies in my family right now, so I like sorting baby clothes," explained Alyssa Gara, 16. "It's good to help out people who are less fortunate than us, understand how grateful we are and give back."

As the only male helping out at what some might think of as a place for women, Jesse Ogundiran enjoyed helping out the center.



Students from Niagara Falls Jr./Sr. High School sort baby clothes at the St. Gianna Molla Pregnancy Outreach Center - Niagara County. All students from the school went out into the community for their annual Day of Caring. Photo: Patrick J. Buechi, WNY Catholic Staff Reporter

"I feel great because I get to help out people in need of help and also I get to understand women's perspective," he said.

The three St. Gianna's locations - Buffalo, Niagara Falls and Dunkirk - rely on donations of clothing and money to help those in need. The current needs include newborn clothes for boys and girls, toddlers, and baby bottles.

Excerpted with permission from Western New York Catholic, the newspaper of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Buffalo. To read more, visit www.wnycatholic.org.

