Gift of Service Essay

"You address me as 'Teacher' and 'Lord,' and fittingly enough, for that is what I am. But if I washed your feet-I who am Teacher and Lord-then you must wash each other's feet. What I just did was to give you an example: as I have done, so you must do." **John 13:13-15**

"The experience of Christian community leads naturally to service. Christ gives His people different gifts not only for themselves but for others. Each must serve the other for the good of all. The Church is a servant community in which those who hunger are to be filled; the ignorant are to be taught; the homeless to receive shelter; the sick cared for; the distressed consoled; the oppressed set free-all so that men may more fully realize their human potential and more readily enjoy life with God now and eternally."
To Teach as Jesus Did: A Pastoral Message on Catholic Education USCCB #28

Service work is any work a person does to help others. Interview your parent(s) and ask them if they have ever done, or whether they are currently doing, any kind of service work. They may have volunteered to help in a large organized charity group or on an individual basis with someone, outside family responsibilities. Use these questions as a guide:

- † What gifts has God given you that you have used to help others?
- † Tell me about the specific time when you provided service by using one of your gifts.
- † Where and when did this service take place?
- † How did the service affect the person or community you helped?
- † What Catholic tradition or Scripture story can you relate to the service you provided?

Use the answers to your interview questions above to help write your one page Gift of Service Essay. After completing, submit to your teacher or catechist.