

2023 Recipient ~ Julia Kret The Ursuline School, Class of 2024

Through my years in high school, I have taken to heart the motto of service and giving back to the community. I have been involved in numerous service projects including EDGE, Peer Ministry, helping the elderly, and volunteering for the Sisters of Life. I believe that giving back to your community and helping those in need is vital. I volunteered for the Sisters of Life before the lockdowns for Covid-19 and loved the experience. I volunteered at their motherhouse and helped clean, do chores, and prepare for future events for 5 hours over a weekend. I have wanted to volunteer with them again but haven't been able to do so since the Covid-19 lockdowns. At the beginning of my junior year, I began volunteering for an organization called EDGE in Harrison. This organization prepares 8th graders for their confirmation in the spring. I have really enjoyed helping the students learn more about their faith and deepen their relationship with God. Since the beginning of my junior year, I have volunteered with this organization for a little less than 20 hours. Along with EDGE, I became a Peer Minister at the beginning of my junior year. Peer Ministry at the Ursuline School consists of helping your peers learn more about their faith. I volunteered on multiple retreats and ran rosary as well as adoration in the chapel. I spent about 30 hours over the first semester of the school year volunteering for Peer Ministry. Lastly, I helped out with my grandparents a lot over the past two years because of my grandfather's situation. I would stay with my grandfather for hours while my mother would take my grandmother to doctor appointments. All of these experiences really showed me how blessed I am and how much I love volunteering and serving others. I strive to continue to volunteer and help others as best I can for the rest of my life.