

Physically Distanced Service Ideas

Viewing Service Differently

Your usual service programs might not be feasible to do this year; however, there are still plenty of ways to provide service to your community especially through education, advocacy, and prayer. Use the list below as a starting point for ideas to continue service and justice actions in your community throughout the pandemic.

Lean, Pray, and Act:

- Invite your community to explore a justice issue in a (digital) discussion group. Some ideas include:
 - Discuss, pray, and take action using the 21 Day Ignatian Racial Equity Challenge: <http://igsol.net/21challenge>
 - Discuss, pray, and take action using the Season of Creation Challenge: <http://igsol.net/creationhabits>
 - Participate in the Solidarity Across Borders Campaign to learn, pray, and act on the issue of migration: <http://igsol.net/borders>
- Join the Ignatian Family Teach-In for Justice to learn about a variety of justice issues, and then make an action plan to address an issue in the upcoming months or semester: igsol.net/iftj

Civic Life:

- If you are healthy and meet the requirements, consider volunteering as a poll worker as many people who normally volunteer are retired and at high risk for COVID-19. Learn more: <https://bit.ly/3igctN5>
- Do voter registration outreach to help family members and community members make a voting plan. Use the Ignatian Solidarity Network's Voting is an Act of Love Campaign for resources and inspiration: igsol.net/vote
- Offer to drop off and collect vote by mail applications and ballots to people in your community and then deliver them to your Board of Elections.
- Research a justice topic and write a letter to the editor or opinion piece to your local newspaper sharing why it is important and what action you would like to see people take on the issue.
- Sign a petition or email or call an elected official about a justice topic that interests you that you've learned about from a previous service experience. Ideally, relationships made during service will lead to taking action to address root causes of injustices. For advocacy tips, visit: <http://igsol.net/advocacy>

HANDOUT

Letter Writing and Connection:

- Write thank you notes to essential workers.
- Write letters or call the elderly in your parish or the elderly in local nursing homes.
- Write letters or call important people in your life telling them what they mean to you.
- Write a letter or make a card for your priest(s).
- Write letters to veterans and first responders. Learn more about opportunities at Operation Gratitude: <https://bit.ly/3ig2OpN>

Service at Home:

- Read a book to younger family members in your own home or virtually.
- Do an act of service for each family member and write a reflection about it.
- Help out around the house—do something for your family without being asked.
- Ask family members and neighbors if they need help with yard work.
- Lead a prayer service for your family. Consider praying for essential workers, those suffering from COVID-19, racial justice, those in charge of making big decisions for our country, etc.

Share Talents and Creativity:

- Bake something and drop it off for someone to enjoy.
- Decorate rocks, canvases, or other mediums with uplifting messages, scripture, and images and deliver to the front porches of houses.
- Make masks to donate to people and organizations that need them.
- Create online music, dance, art lessons, or any other skill that you would like to share with your community.
- Consider writing a Voices for Justice piece for the Ignatian Solidarity Network about a justice topic of your choice. Read previous pieces here: ignatiansolidarity.net/blogs/
Email bdavis@ignatiansolidarity.net for more information.

Care for Creation:

- Help with trail, beach, or neighborhood cleanup.
- Commit to sharing an educational post about an environmental issue weekly or daily.
- Commit to taking one new sustainable action each day for a week or month. Share your progress and write a reflection about what you learn at the end. For ideas: igsol.net/creationhabits

Donations:

- Get a box of food together for your local food pantry.
- Collect food donations from neighbors, family, and friends to take to the food pantry.
- Donate your voice to the Vocal ID Voicebank: <https://bit.ly/3iodQsT>
Learn why voice donations are important with this <https://bit.ly/3imLvmZ>
- Reach out to your local Catholic Worker to see if they could use any supplies or services.