



Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown

TO: Parish Priests, Catholic School Principals
Parish Directors/Coordinators of Religious Education

FROM: Jean D. Johnstone, Executive Director, Catholic Charities

RE: **MATTHEW 25 YOUTH HUMANITARIAN AWARD NOMINATIONS**

DATE: **February 28, 2017**

*For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me.
'Amen I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.'*
Matthew 25: 35-36, 40

Are you aware of a young person in elementary or secondary school whose service to others reflects the spirit of Jesus' words in Matthew 25, the mission of Catholic Charities – to serve, inform and advocate on behalf of the poor, and the principles of Catholic Social Teaching?

Annually, Catholic Charities has honored young men and women from across the eight counties of the Diocese with the *Matthew 25 Youth Humanitarian Award* at our Annual Catholic Charities Recognition Dinner (scheduled this year for May 31, 2017 at the Altoona Grand Hotel).

This award is given to elementary and high school students for demonstrating exceptional service to their communities, especially service to the poor and needy. **This service is "above and beyond" required school community service hours.** Award winners will receive a scholarship for tuition/school/college expenses and a plaque recognizing their achievements. The award winners, their parents and the person nominating the student will be invited to attend the May 31st dinner as our guests.

Once again we are asking for your help in nominating students from your school and/or parish religious education classes. If you would like to nominate a student, please complete the attached nomination form and return it by March 31, 2017 to:

Catholic Charities, Inc.
Recognition Award Nomination
P.O. Box 1349
Altoona, PA 16603-1349

If you have any question about the award criteria, please do not hesitate to call me at the Catholic Charities Altoona Office (814) 944-9388.

Thank you for all that you do to support the children and families in our diocesan communities.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES, INC.
MATTHEW 25 YOUTH HUMANITARIAN AWARD

Youth Nomination Form – 2017

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Name of Student: _____

Parent/Guardian Names: _____

Student’s Home Address: _____

Home Phone Number: _____

School: _____

Grade: _____ **Age:** _____

Please attach a one-page description of *how* this student has demonstrated “exceptional” service to his/her community, especially service to the poor, marginalized and needy within our diocese. Service must be *“above and beyond”* what is required for community service hours and/or service to the parish.

Recommended by: _____

Signature

Phone Number: _____

Address: _____

Parish/School/Agency: _____

Position: _____

All nomination forms must be submitted by **March 31, 2017**. Please mail to:

Catholic Charities, Inc.
Recognition Award Nomination
P.O. Box 1349
Altoona, PA 16603-1349

Nomination forms may also be faxed to: (814) 941-2677
Or emailed to: jjohnstone@dioceseaj.org