



**SIGNIFICANCE**  
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“ For him, you have worth; you are not insignificant. You are important to him, for you are the work of his hands. That is why he is concerned about you and looks to you with affection (Christus Vivit, 115). ”

## **FAITH IN ACTION AWARD NATIONAL YOUTH SUNDAY 2019 FOR SCHOOLS:**

**How can you take all of this forward? How can you now lead a life of significance?**

As you may have already picked up, leading a life of significance is not just about being famous, it's about doing things which are significant for other people and doing them with love. God is love and so when we love we are drawing closer to God. It does not matter how significant your act is, just that it is done with love.

There is poverty and suffering all around us. Child poverty is on the rise in the UK and the rollout of Universal Credit by the government has struck some families hard. The solution to poverty can seem complex and challenging but it's not. You can easily help those around you. There are lots of charities all over the UK who have been specifically set up to help relieve homelessness and alleviate poverty, you could fundraise for them but if you just fundraise you are actually missing out on an opportunity to encounter Christ.

Christ went out to the poor and we all called to imitate Him. If can we think of ways we can physically help, such as collecting warm clothing and giving them out to people on the streets, we can go out and encounter Christ in these people. By getting to know people and making friendships we minister to them. Below are some examples of things you could try and get involved in to reach out to the need around you:

- Making sandwiches to go to a soup kitchen.
- Collecting cardboard and sleeping bags to go to the homeless.
- Making "get well" or greetings cards for those who otherwise would not get one.
- Volunteering at a local charity shop.
- Visiting the elderly in care homes.
- Running a friendship group for lonely parishioners.
- Collecting food for the local food bank.
- Helping out at a local soup kitchen.
- Telling your local newspaper about poverty in your area.
- Speaking out against bullying.
- Posting on social media about the need in your local area.
- Visiting a local prison or attending Mass there.
- Helping children with special needs.
- Helping immigrants with English.
- Putting together food parcels for families in need.

**Don't make today just another day. Make today the day you challenge the poverty around you. Make this the day you bring a bit more hope and love into the world. Make this the day you imitate Christ and spread the message of the Gospel through your actions. Make this the day you do something SIGNIFICANT.**

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