

DISCIPLESHIP PROJECT

BY: SOPHIA DARIENZO

WHY?

I contributed to Samaritan's Purse Operation Shoebox because Christmas is supposed to be a happy time of year not only for people who have been fortunate enough to buy gifts, but also those in need. Christmas is a time for all to celebrate the birth of Jesus and to experience his love. I believe by helping volunteer I shared some of God's love with the world.

WHERE?

My family friends and I drove up to Santa Ana during to holidays. It was in a big warehouse facility that has different stations doing different tasks. As I was there, I saw all the volunteers smiling faces realizing they are doing something good for others, which most of the time can male you feel good as well.

WHEN?

This was during late November of last Year, so everything could be shipped in time for kids around the world to receive for Christmas. We had been planning this for a while and to be completely honest I had not known what to expect. I am extremely grateful for all the blessing God has given me, and it made me feel good to give others that feeling too.

HOW?

When I arrived, they took my group of people to the back of the warehouse where they stationed us next to a pile of shoeboxes. Our job was to go through each and every box and make sure there were no harmful objects or inappropriate items in the box. We stayed there for about 5 hours helping and in those 5 hours I saw so many people come through and help and it was one of the most amazing things I've ever witnessed.





PICTURES

CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING

I believe the Catholic Social Teaching that I most displayed through this experience was Option for the Poor and Vulnerable. I showed this by devoting my time to something other then the things that distract me in life. Between sports, school, and social media, most people don't take the time to look around and appreciate all the gifts they have been given. I realized through this organization there are really some people out there who are truly selfless. I hope to spread the word about this organization and one day get people to go volunteer throughout the holidays.