

SERVANT OF THE WEEK—
BRIAN HAVERKAMP



Our last featured Servant of 2009 is Brian Haverkamp, who has been an 18-year, life long, member of OLV. His immediate family of dad and mom, Roy and Kim, and sister Holly, Brian described as “supportive; they're always there for me and would do anything for me. The Haverkamps live in Brimfield, and you can see by the picture that Brian is a proud student. He’s a Senior at Field High School, is involved in Band, organized a pep band, and is also in Cross Country and Track. Next year will be his third year as captain of the Cross country team. This year he felt honored to qualify to the OHSAA State Cross Country Meet. With his job working for Paradise Country Club in Suffield, there isn’t much extra time for more activities, but four years ago, a personal invitation got him active on our

Middle School Retreat team. He said, “Friends wanted me to do a retreat with them and I said OK, and I've been hooked ever since. This winter will be my fourth year doing the middle school retreat. I really enjoy doing the retreats with Ellen and the other groups.” The retreat team is happy to have him onboard with his caring attitude, and willingness to help wherever he can. As Brian has made the considerable time commitment to the retreat team, he spoke of some real blessings he’s received in return. “Great friendships, knowing that I have friends I can talk to about my problems, and people I can just go and hangout with and they won't judge me or anything I do.” As a reminder to all of us that our youth retreats aren’t just fun and games, Brian said, “a special memory that I will always remember was at a middle school retreat when I chose to do a witness for the middle-schoolers. The witness was about a friend of mine that had recently passed away and it was the first time I talked about it with anybody, and they were very supportive and they helped me through it.” The big and final payoff for Brian for his parish involvement—“A closer relationship with God.”