

Triangle Factory Fire Project - Theology IV

The Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire occurred on March 25, 1911, in New York City. It caused the death of 146 young, immigrant garment workers who either died from the fire or from jumping to their deaths. The fire sparked much discussion on the issues of workplace safety, immigrant rights, and the role of women and children in the workforce. While these are ultimately all issues of social justice, it is fitting that the Senior Theology classes join with the cast and crew of the Triangle Factory Fire Project (DSHA's winter play) in creating a visual display honoring this event and paying tribute to its victims, witnesses and survivors.

Each senior will be assigned a name of a person somehow involved in the experience of the fire. Your task is to research your assigned person and come up with some basic information, specifically:

- age (if known)
- job (if known)
- *most importantly* – whether they were a **victim** or **survivor** of the fire and the events surrounding it.

Once you have found your information, you are asked to find a shirt/blouse that somehow represents this person, the time period and/or the tragedy itself. Use your creativity! Out of your chosen shirt, please cut a square measuring about 4" x 4" (see template below.) **Be sure to cut through both layers of the shirt, so you end up with two square fabric swatches.** On both swatches, you are asked to write your person's name and age. These swatches will be given to patrons of the show as they enter the theater.

Meanwhile, the rest of the shirt will be hung in the Quad as part of a large display. On the front of the shirt, write the name. On the back of the shirt, write either the word VICTIM or SURVIVOR based on the information you've located.

Everyone will be invited to find the shirt that matches their swatch at the intermission or conclusion of the show as a way to find out the fate of that person.

All shirts and swatches need to be completed by Monday, March 1st.

See Mrs. Metz or Mrs. Gillespie with any questions.

