

Ministry of Service

Why do service?

Service projects are based on the spiritual and corporal works of mercy and, most of all, on the example of Christ who came to serve. When giving service, the following points should be considered:

- ◇ Your service is not just a job to be done. It is selflessly and lovingly helping those in need.
- ◇ You should reflect on how your service project benefits a specific group, organization or individual. It is to help you take on the mind and heart of Christ, fulfill the needs of others, and build up the Christian community.
- ◇ The giving of service should continue after your confirmation and all through your life.

As Catholic Christians, a ministry of service is one of the most important things we do. Throughout Scripture, we are called to love our neighbor and to stand up for justice and peace. Since justice and service are so important to who we are as Catholics, we ask that each Confirmation candidate make his/her service project a priority.

How long should my project last?

Serving others is not just something we do to “get it over with;” it is a part of what it means for us to be Catholic. Therefore, it is recommended that Confirmation candidates become involved in a new service project that is ongoing, and that becomes a regular commitment. A reasonable commitment must be made; i.e. one time, weekly, periodically, etc. Doing “service” at home, where you are already expected to help out, *does not* count for a Confirmation service project.

Each candidate is required to give twenty (20) hours of individual service. Fifteen (15) of these hours must be done at Sacred Heart Church or by participating in one of Sacred Heart Ministries; the remaining five (5) may be done at church or in the community.

What project should I choose?

Reference to the “*Approved Service Project List*” sheet for the opportunities. If a Confirmation candidate wishes to be involved in a service project *not* included on this list, he/she must contact the Confirmation teacher *prior* to starting the project for approval.

When do I need to decide on my project?

It is strongly encouraged that Confirmands’ begin to work on their service projects as soon as possible. Parents will need to help the Confirmands’ negotiate an appropriate schedule for his/her service project to be completed in a timely fashion.

Is there any required paperwork?

When the candidate has completed a service project, he/she is responsible for obtaining their supervisor’s signature, fill out the Service Hours Completion Verification Form and Service Hour Reflection Form and turn in to their teacher. If your service project encompasses more than one day, a verification form and reflection form is required for each day (VBS, forms filled out for each day of service).

Approved Service Project List

Jesus said, "Here I am among you as one who serves." (Luke 22:27)

Before making a commitment to a service project, think about the variety of ways in which you can use your talents and abilities to help others. These activities listed below are some of the ways other candidates have chosen to serve within our parish or community. Perhaps something on the list will help you decide the service you would like to perform.

Opportunities for Ministry through the Church

- ◆ **Parish Life** - Help with food and beverage for all parish functions, parties, social, etc. during the year. Contact Sierra Campbell, 923-0124 x1014
- ◆ **Altar Servers** – Honorable service. Contact Hoa Nguyen, hoa.nguyen@sacredheartwr.com
- ◆ **Altar Society** – Maintains dignity and cleanliness of chapels and sanctuaries. Contact Robert Hipple, 397-2337, roberthipple@yahoo.com
- ◆ **Choristers/Handbell Choir** - Contact James McDavitt music@sacredheartwr.com
- ◆ **Children's Liturgy** – Meets during the Liturgy of the Word for Masses at 9:00 AM (English) and 2:00 PM (Spanish). Contact Nancy Deighan for 9:00 AM Mass at (call Church Office for phone number)
- ◆ **Vacation Bible School** – 2nd week of June from 9:00 – 1:00 pm. Contact Matthew Lawson at 923-0124 x1003.
- ◆ **Nursery** – Help during all Masses and other functions. Contact Jean Woodman at 923-0124 x1004
- ◆ **Ushers** – Important part of the hospitality ministry. Contact Craig Nasworthy at 478-298-9380

Ministry to Area Organizations through the church:

- ◆ **Christian Service Center (CSC)** – Provides help and outreach to the needy in our community. Contact Greg Schliekelman at 929-3897.

How to organize a Service Drive of your own:

Candidates may choose to discuss with their parents the possibility of organizing a canned good drive, book drive, or clothing drive in your own neighborhood or school to benefit your favorite charity. If you choose to organize a drive for your Service Project, please contact your Confirmation teachers to discuss the logistics.

SERVICE PROJECT REFLECTION FORM

Directions for reflection sheet:

1. Write out ONE reflection per project or one day of service and answer every question as best you can. Answers must be written in cursive or be a word document.
2. Use the back of this page or a separate piece of paper to answer questions 1-7.
3. RE: VBS service hours...Service hours' verification form will be signed after reflection form is complete...quality of work must reflect the quality of the education of our Confirmands'.

STUDENT INFORMATION

Name of Confirmation Candidate: _____

Parent's Name: _____ Phone: _____

Today's date: _____ Email: _____

PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Type (circle): Individual Class

Name of Project/Organization: _____

Project took place: Where _____

Supervisor Name _____ Phone: _____

Description of Duties (Please describe your responsibilities): _____

<u>Date Worked</u>	<u>Period of Service (Hours)</u>	<u>Supervisor's Signature</u>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

TELLING MY STORY

1. What thoughts and feelings did you have about the project before it took place?
2. How did you feel about your involvement during the project?
3. What thoughts and feelings did you have about the project after it took place?

ABOUT MYSELF:

4. How does what you were asked to do during the project reflect Jesus Christ's teaching *'Do unto others as you would have them do unto you'*?
5. List the positive and negative parts of what happened during the project.
6. What lessons or insights have you gained as a result of this project?
7. List your personal talents, skills or abilities that you used in the service of others during this project.