

St. Patrick Religious Education 2023-24 School Year

Christian Service

Jesus taught us that what we do for the least of our brothers we do for Him. The Works of Mercy are acts of love and compassion by which we care for the bodily and spiritual needs of others. They call us to live according to Christ's example.

The **Corporal Works of Mercy** focus on the physical (bodily) and material needs of others, and include feeding the hungry, giving drink to the thirsty, clothing the naked, visiting the imprisoned, sheltering the homeless, visiting the sick, and burying the dead.

The **Spiritual Works of Mercy** focus on the needs of the heart, mind, and soul, and include admonishing the sinner, instructing the ignorant, counseling the doubtful, comforting the sorrowful, bearing wrongs patiently, forgiving all injuries, and praying for the living and dead.

Christian Service Details for 2023-24 School Year:

St. Patrick Religious Education Parents continue to identify service as a key component they want their children to understand as part of their religious education. As such we ask that your child complete the minimum Christian Service hours listed below for his or her grade level:

- Grades 1 & 2 = 2 Hours
- Grades 3, 4, 5 & 6 = 3 Hours
- Grade 7 = 4 Hours
- Grades 8, 9 & 10 = 5 Hours

Religious Education Sponsored Christian Service Options:

St. Patrick Religious Education offers the following options to complete Christian Service hours:

- Participating or volunteering to assist in a grade level Mass (1 Hour)
- Raising money for the St. Vincent de Paul Society by participating in:
 - The Walk for the Poor on Saturday October 21, 2023 at 8:30-9:30 am in the St. Patrick Parking Lot (1 hour for every \$10 raised)
 - The Super Bowl of Caring weekend February 3-4, 2024 in honor of the Super Bowl.
- Participating in the Christmas Cards for the Bereaved of the Parish Project (1 hour for every 2 handmade and decorated cards created)

Families who are uncomfortable with their child volunteering in public may elect to complete Spiritual Works of Mercy to fulfill their Christian Service. Examples include: praying a rosary as a family, reading bible stories to younger siblings, consciously practicing forgiveness, praying for the deceased or comforting those who are suffering. Students who chose this option will need to write a short paragraph about what they did and how it helped others and made them feel.

How to document your child's Christian Service:

Once your child has completed Christian Service, please visit our [Google Christian Service Form](#) to document the hours.