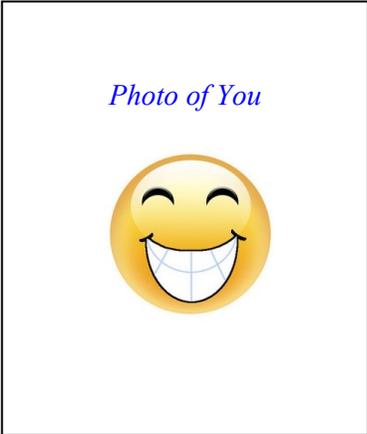


Name:

School:

Age:



- 5 adjectives that describe me are:
- 1.
  - 2.
  - 3.
  - 4.
  - 5.

As I prepare to complete my initiation into the Catholic Church, I want to promise God that I will...

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This is what I hope people will say about me ten years from now “ \_\_\_\_\_ (your name) has made a positive difference in the world by...”

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**Milestones in my faith life**

I was baptized at \_\_\_\_\_ Church on \_\_\_\_\_. My godparents were \_\_\_\_\_.

I celebrated my First Holy Communion at \_\_\_\_\_ Church.

I will celebrate my Confirmation on \_\_\_\_\_ at Holy Trinity Church.



We don't just do things *to* or *for* others, we invite them into relationship with us. We don't just see others as a needy soul, but as someone with their own dignity and talents from whom we can learn and benefit. Serving becomes a two-way street.

You are invited to utilize the Mercy Passport 2016 which reminds us of the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy and offers suggestions for how to practice those works. You will be asked to challenge yourself in two arenas: at the parish level and in the wider community.

### 7<sup>th</sup> Graders

Start close to home: your family, neighborhood, parish. Consider the following categories:

- Elderly
- Sick/homebound/nursing home residents
- A family who has experienced death
- The very young
- The environment
- Someone with special needs

Look around and see where your help might make a positive difference. Be creative in deciding how you will meet the needs you have identified. Choose at least three encounters. Perform your service. Complete the reflection questions.

### 8<sup>th</sup> Graders

Expand your outreach to the wider community. The Mercy Passport introduces you to a number of community organizations. You are asked to do the following:

- Choose one work of mercy to engage in with your sponsor.
- Choose one work of mercy to engage in with your whole family.
- Choose one work of mercy and invite a group of your peers to join you in carrying it out.

Be creative. Challenge yourself to do at least one work that will stretch you a bit, causing you to leave your comfort zone. You will learn something valuable about yourself in doing so. Perform your service. Complete the reflection questions.

**In addition**, investigate one of the following international organizations and write about their work in the wider world:

- Heifer International
- The Smile Train
- Catholic Relief Services
- No One Dies Alone
- Bread for the World
- Doctors without Borders
- Pax Christi
- World Vision International
- Unicef
- Maryknoll
- Hospice
- Greenpeace

## For 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Candidates

### *Encounter 1*

Location or type of service

#### **BEFORE You Serve**

Why are you drawn to this particular work of mercy? \_\_\_\_\_

How will you prepare yourself to engage in it as a *relationship*, not simply as a “good deed”? \_\_\_\_\_

#### **AFTER You Serve**

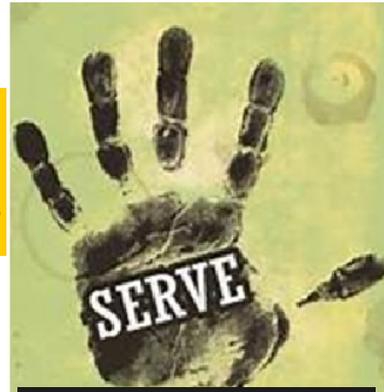
Who did you meet? \_\_\_\_\_

What stories did you hear? \_\_\_\_\_

How were you Christ to those you served? \_\_\_\_\_

How did you see God in the person(s) you served? \_\_\_\_\_

What did you learn about yourself through this encounter? \_\_\_\_\_



You were shaped for serving God

## For 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Candidates

### *Encounter 2*

Location or type of service

#### **BEFORE You Serve**

Why are you drawn to this particular work of mercy? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

How will you prepare yourself to engage in it as a *relationship*, not simply as a "good deed"? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

#### **AFTER You Serve**

Who did you meet? \_\_\_\_\_

What stories did you hear? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

How were you Christ to those you served? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

How did you see God in the person(s) you served? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What did you learn about yourself through this encounter?

\_\_\_\_\_

I ALONE CAN NOT  
CHANGE THE WORLD.  
BUT I CAN CAST A  
STONE ACROSS THE  
WATERS TO CREATE

MANY *RIPPLES.*

MOTHER TERESA

# For 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Candidates

## Encounter 3



Location or type of service

### **BEFORE You Serve**

Why are you drawn to this particular work of mercy? \_\_\_\_\_

How will you prepare yourself to engage in it as a *relationship*, not simply as a "good deed"? \_\_\_\_\_

### **AFTER You Serve**

Who did you meet? \_\_\_\_\_

What stories did you hear? \_\_\_\_\_

How were you Christ to those you served? \_\_\_\_\_

How did you see God in the person(s) you served? \_\_\_\_\_

What did you learn about yourself through this encounter? \_\_\_\_\_



Your Passport has hopefully helped you document and reflect on your service encounters. Below you'll find more space to make notes if needed.

Please put your Passport someplace safe, just as you would a travel passport! **You'll use this same Passport during Confirmation preparation next year as well.**



**NOTES:**

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# Serving with My Sponsor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Location or type of service

My Sponsor's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

## **BEFORE You Serve**

Why are you drawn to this particular work of mercy?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



How will you prepare yourself to engage in it as a *relationship*, not simply as a “good deed”?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



## **AFTER You Serve**

Who did you meet? \_\_\_\_\_

What stories did you hear? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

How were you Christ to those you served? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



How did you see God in the person(s) you served? \_\_\_\_\_

What did you learn about yourself through this encounter?

What did you learn about your sponsor? \_\_\_\_\_



*“God gave you your particular mix of talents and abilities because they match up with the mission he has in mind for you.” - Matthew Kelly in Resisting Happiness*



## Serving with My Family

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Location or type of service

The names of my family members: \_\_\_\_\_

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### **BEFORE You Serve**

Why are you drawn to this particular work of mercy? \_\_\_\_\_

How will you prepare yourself to engage in it as a *relationship*, not simply as a “good deed”? \_\_\_\_\_

### **AFTER You Serve**

Who did you meet? \_\_\_\_\_

What stories did you hear? \_\_\_\_\_

How were you Christ to those you served?

How did you see God in the person(s) you served?

What did you learn about yourself through this encounter?

What did you learn about your family?

# Serving with My Peers

\_\_\_\_\_

Location or type of service

I worked with \_\_\_\_\_

## **BEFORE You Serve**

Why are you drawn to this particular work of mercy? \_\_\_\_\_

How will you prepare yourself to engage in it as a *relationship*, not simply as a “good deed”?

## **AFTER You Serve**

Who did you meet? \_\_\_\_\_

What stories did you hear? \_\_\_\_\_

How were you Christ to those you served? \_\_\_\_\_

How did you see God in the person(s) you served? \_\_\_\_\_

What did you learn about yourself through this encounter?

What did you learn about your friends?





## *Serving the Wider World*

Investigate one of the following international organizations and write about their work in the wider world:

- Heifer International or Bread for the World
- The Smile Train or Doctors without Borders
- Catholic Relief Services, World Vision International, or Samaritan's Purse
- Pax Christi
- Greenpeace
- Hospice or No One Dies Alone
- Maryknoll
- Unicef

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## *My Reflections*



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*“The place where God calls you to is the place where your deep gladness and the world’s deep hunger meet.”*  
- Frederick Bueckner