

Christian Service

“The central message is simple: our faith is profoundly social. We cannot truly be called “Catholic” unless we hear and heed the church’s call to serve those in need and work for justice and peace. We cannot call ourselves followers of Jesus unless we take up his mission of bringing “good news to the poor, liberty to captives and new sight to the blind” (Communities of Salt and Light, U.S. Bishops, 1993).

Serving our brothers and sisters in Christ is part of the commitment we make as Christians, following in Christ’s footsteps and living out the Mission of the Church. Service is not something we do once, or just before Confirmation: it is a way of life for Christians that we incorporate fully into our faith.

Candidates should prayerfully look for **NINE (9)** service opportunities (or more!) geared to their own talents, time, and abilities. All service should be performed freely and willingly.

Candidate will be asked to reflect on the service they have performed with a service reflection sheet, available on the Parish website, one for each service opportunity.

If you are wondering if your activity works as a Service Opportunity requirement, please ask right away! If you find yourself being paid to do something that you were hoping to count as service hours, you could donate your pay to the parish or other charitable cause. So for example, if you took an hour and cut Mrs. McLawns’s yard for her because she is 90 years old, broke her pinky toe, and has always been so generous to you and then she gave you \$5 because you are such a nice kid, you could give the \$5 to Catholic Relief Services and count that time as service.

Different types of service, Remember, you should not be paid for these service opportunities:

Parish Life:

- Assisting at Donut Sunday
- Assisting the Sacristans at the Church on Saturday Mornings.
- Assisting with Parish and School Functions: Parish Picnic, 8th Grade Graduation Dinner, etc.
- Altar & Rosary Functions

Community-Based Service:

- Writing letters to or visiting hospital, nursing home or shut-ins
- Collecting for Volunteering at the Peter Maurin Center, St. Bernard’s (Akron), Good Samaritan Hunger Center

Family Service Hours

- Help your siblings with any summer work or school work
- Cook and serve meals to your family
- Help up around the house, clean closets or the attic, organize the basement, yard work (that you would not normally do)
- Babysit younger siblings (for free)
- Help out your neighbors, cook a meal and take it to your neighbors, Take out your neighbor’s trash

Group Projects: These are projects you organize yourself or participate in

- Organize clothing or drive
- Letters for for servicemen and women
- Fund-raisers
- Races or runs benefiting needy groups



Make it enjoyable and perhaps discover new ways of being an active Catholic in your parish or as a Catholic assisting your community.



Saint Joseph Parish_____

Confirmation Service Hour Form

To receive credit for service, candidates must fill out this form for each different service completed. The completed form(s) should be returned to Mrs. Plaspohl in the Rectory Offices.

Candidate's Full Name: _____

1. Where did you volunteer your time? _____

2. How many hours did you volunteer? _____ Date of Service: _____

3. What did you do? _____

4. Why did you pick this project? _____

5. To whom and how did your service make a difference? _____

How did this service help you prepare for Confirmation? _____

Candidate's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Person or Representative of Organization served

Signature: _____ Date: _____