



SAINT PIUS X

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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Service Hours Guidelines

Dear Confirmation Candidates and Parents,

One of the most important ways that we proclaim the Gospel and live our lives as Catholic-Christians is by giving of ourselves to others. Because Confirmation will complete each candidate's Christian Initiation this coming school year, we ask that he or she begin taking this call to serve more seriously. To that end, Fr. Bill and I recommend that candidates perform at least 25 hours of service before Confirmation. Candidates may begin recording any service done from this point forward and are asked to submit their completed log of service hours to the Religious Education office by Monday, April 8, 2024.

Candidates and parents often wonder what qualifies for service hours. Service is simply helping others out of Christian charity when a person would not be otherwise required to do so. Therefore, service hours must be unpaid and not part of a candidate's regular family responsibilities (e.g. household chores). **There are not many other restrictions on what can be logged as service hours, but we do ask that candidates perform multiple types of service instead of all hours in one type of service** (e.g. 25 hours of altar serving). Because our goal is to open up students to a variety of stewardship opportunities, 25 hours of one type of service fails to meet this requirement. Please select **at least 5 hours** of service dedicated to something outside the norm of your family's current practice to help expose our students to the variety of ways in which they can serve the Church and world.

Many opportunities are available through the parish. Some will be sent via e-mail, and others can be found in the bulletin or by going to www.stpius.net/ServiceOpportunities. If questions arise about specific service opportunities listed on the web page, please contact Tara Schmitt at tschmitt@stpius.net. Of course, candidates ought to be creative and seek out their own opportunities for service. It is not possible for the parish to provide opportunities for every single hour for every single student, so students must show some creativity and initiative in completing their hours.

Finally, we encourage candidates to help others who have a genuine need and to view this as more than simply a requirement. These hours of service are about forming stewardship as a habit and a way of life. 25 hours are a recommendation, but candidates may go beyond that if they are able. If candidates or parents have any questions, please contact me at any time. We will be sending more Confirmation information towards the beginning of next school year. Come Holy Spirit!

Sincerely in Christ,
Robby Kiley
Director of Religious Education

TO RENEW ALL THINGS IN CHRIST