

Works of Mercy for our neighbor

Confirmation Service Hours

Dear Seventh Grade Students;

This year you will begin the preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation that will be conferred on you during the Spring of your Eighth Grade year. This is an important step in the journey of your Christian life as you continue to grow and mature in your relationship with our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

In addition to your study of the lives of the Saints, heroic Christian men and women of the past, during the Seventh Grade you will begin to express your desire to be Confirmed in the Faith by sacrificing your time and talents in service to the community. This service is a required and integral aspect of the preparation for Confirmation. Our Lord Himself says to us in Matthew's Gospel, "the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve" and encourages us to active service in His words to His disciples, "whoever wishes to be great among you shall be your servant." Saint Paul also emphasized this teaching of Our Lord when he told the Galatians, "serve one another through love."

Now that we can see how important this loving service is to our growth in the Christian life, we can clearly understand the requirement and guidelines for the Service hours.

Guidelines

1. Minimum of 15 hours of service.
2. Service hours are for Confirmation only and cannot be combined with service performed through Scouts *which is being applied to badge or merit requirements.*
3. Service should be of a community nature as much as possible. This can mean the

Church, School, or local/national communities. Volunteering at the Parish Picnic, soup kitchens, homeless shelters, the Closet (charity thrift shop), blood drives, community cleanup days, visiting the sick and or shut ins in hospitals/nursing homes are only a few ideas for community service. Shoveling snow for an elderly neighbor (for no monetary reward) is acceptable, cutting your Dad's grass is not. (Although God will surely reward you for "honoring your mother and father") There are service hours available during the school year for volunteer service given during recess or at the book fair, etc. Service at Mass as an altar server is not to be applied to Confirmation as that is to be seen as a privilege, rather than as a duty. Babysitting is also not to be applied to service hours, unless it was in the Church nursery during Mass or to watch volunteers' children during Spring Fling setup at school, etc.

4. Service hour sheets will be distributed by Mrs. Daughtrey so that you may record your service hours and have your time signed off by an adult in charge. Additional sheets may be obtained at any time when you run out of space. These sheets will be collected and reviewed.

5. Any specific questions should be addressed to

Mrs. Daughtrey