

*“St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception School:
Forming disciples of Jesus Christ through quality Catholic education.”*

Dear Middle School Families,

2023

Service is an important aspect of our Christian life. We are called to show our love for God in both word and action. One way we show God we love Him is by loving our neighbor as Jesus taught us to. Service for others not only benefits the person being served, but helps us to grow in character, conviction, and understanding.

We are requiring our 5th-8th grade middle school students to work on developing a life of service by meeting a goal of 6/9 hours of service per year. Our 5th grade students should complete 6 hours. 6th – 8th grade will complete 9 hours. Categories will differ based on grade. All 6 hours for fifth graders can be completed in any category. 6th graders will be expected to do 5 hours for family and 4 hours for school/parish. 7th and 8th graders will need to complete 3 hours in each of the categories: family, school/parish, and community. To be considered as service, the student should not receive payment or other rewards for the time they are offering, and it should be something that is not part of their daily responsibilities. There is a form to be filled out after each service opportunity which includes a reflection of their time and experiences. These forms will then be turned in to their homeroom teacher. Students who do not complete the required 6/9 hours per year will not be allowed to participate in the 8th grade retreat. Extra copies of the forms can be found on the school website or in the middle school classrooms. Forms need to be filled out completely in cursive. The top portion must be filled out before the supervising adult signs it, and the entire page filled out before parents sign it. Completed forms must be turned in within two weeks of completing the service activity. All forms for the year must be turned in by Friday, May 10th for the 8th graders and May 31st for grades 5-7. The hours for the year must be completed and turned in, in order to participate in any ‘end-of-year’ activities.

Students may count any service done over the summer but must turn in completed forms for summer service by Friday, September 29th.

Attached is a list of possible service ideas. This is a great opportunity to live out our call to service of God.

Mrs. Engelbert, Mrs. Ratchman, Mrs. Gilbertson, and Mrs. Tews.