

2023-2024 CONFIRMATION SERVICE SUGGESTIONS for Middle School Students and Their Families

GENERAL/MISCELLANEOUS

Catholic Charities: Catholic Charities is the social ministry outreach of the Archdiocese of Washington. Find service opportunities at <http://www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/volunteer/>

Care Packages

<https://www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/care-packages/>

Kind Works: We meet pressing community needs and build community by mobilizing individuals in volunteer service. www.dokindworks.org

Montgomery County Volunteer Center

Various opportunities (including SSL): www.montgomeryserves.org

Volunteermatch.org: This is an interesting website with some great ideas. Check it out!

A Wider Circle

The mission of A Wider Circle is simple: to end poverty for one individual and one family after another. We work in partnership with those we serve and with those seeking to help to ensure that every child and adult has the chance to succeed and the opportunity to live well.

Address: 9159 Brookville RD, Silver Spring, MD 20910

Phone: 301-608-3504 Email: volunteer@awidercircle.org

Website: <http://awidercircle.org/get-involved/volunteer/>

Bikes for the World

Bikes are collected and prepared for shipment to developing countries, where they will be repaired and will provide transportation to work and school.

Website: www.bikesfortheworld.org

Food and Friends

Prepares and delivers food to those living with HIV/AIDS, cancer, and other life-threatening illnesses.

Address: 219 Riggs Rd, NE, Washington, DC 20011

Phone: 202-269-2277

Website: www.foodandfriends.org

Interfaith Clothing Center

Volunteers are needed to accept donations, sort and display clothing and housewares, and directly assist clients. (Youth do not usually assist clients; however, those who speak Spanish are sometimes asked to help.)

Address: 751 Twinbrook Parkway in Rockville

Phone: 301-424-3796

Charity Connect: Charity Connect personally facilitates meaningful and sustainable volunteerism. Contact them and talk to them about your interests and abilities, and they will show you where the community needs you the most. Visit: <https://www.charityconnect.us/>

DISABLED/ELDERLY/SICK/SPECIAL NEEDS

Consider visiting elderly neighbors or family members or other people you know who are in a nursing home, rehabilitation, etc.

Raphael House

Address: 1515 Dunster Rd, Rockville, MD 20854

Phone: 301-217-9116 -- Call and ask about opportunities to serve the residents. Many Confirmation candidates have created artwork, performed online musical concerts, written cards and notes of support, prayer, and friendship.

Special Olympics Montgomery County

Requires training and a commitment to an entire sports season of working with a special needs athlete.

Website: www.somdmontgomery.org

HUNGER

Shepherd's Table: Meal Service, Clothing

(301) 585-6463

info@shepherdstable.org

8106 Georgia Ave. Silver Spring, MD 20910

<https://www.shepherdstable.org/volunteer-opportunities/>

Capital Area Food Bank

Address: 4900 Puerto Rico Ave, N.E., Washington, DC 20017

Phone: 202-644-9800

Volunteer Hours, by Appointment Only:

Note: Volunteers between the ages of 10 and 13 must have prior permission, a signed waiver, and a parent with them in the warehouse. You'll be sorting food for local distribution. Wear closed-toed shoes and sign up online in advance.

Website: www.capitalareafoodbank.org

Gleaning Network (under the auspices of Society of St. Andrew)

Gleaning is the traditional Biblical practice of gathering crops that would otherwise be left in the fields to rot or be plowed under after harvest. Because the food is unmarketable, some growers allow crews of gleaners to pick what is left after harvest to donate to those who are needy.

Website: www.endhunger.org/gleaning-network

Harvest of Hope

Harvest of Hope is the ecumenical study, worship, and action mission trip program of the Society of St. Andrew. It is designed to educate youth and adults about the problem of hunger. Youth will work in the fields gleaning food for the hungry, study hunger issues, participate in Christian worship, and have fun! There are weekend retreats for junior high youth and also weekend intergenerational retreats for all ages. Visit the website to register for a retreat *early* in the year, because locations vary and space is limited. There are registration costs.

Website: www.endhunger.org/hoh

Manna Food Center

Address: 9311 Gaither Rd, Gaithersburg, MD 20877

Phone: 301-424-1130

Volunteers are needed to help sort food, promote the charity, or to collect food at local food drives. Register early, as space is limited.

Website: <http://www.mannafood.org/volunteer-with-us/opportunities-for-individuals/>

Martha's Table

Help by preparing food, serving food, and cleaning up. Sign up to volunteer (online only) by clicking your preferred date on the online calendar.

Address: 2114 14th Street, N.W. in Washington DC.

Website: www.marthastable.volunteerhub.com

Phone: 202-750-8454

SHARE Food Network – Catholic Charities DC

Help by bagging food. Sign up for a time slot in advance, online only.

<https://www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/volunteer/>

Select “SHARE Food Network Bagging” and fill in the volunteer application.

Address: 3222 Hubbard Road, Landover, MD 20785

Phone: 301-864-3115 or Email: volunteer@cc-dc.org

SOME (So Others Might Eat)

Various opportunities include serving meals in the dining room and providing holiday treats / decorations. <http://some.org/volunteer/youth-opportunities/>

Address: 71 O Street, NW, DC 20001

Phone: 202-797-8806 ext. 2201 or Email: volunteer@some.org

Bread for the World

Bread for the World is a collective Christian voice urging our nation's decision makers to end hunger at home and abroad. By changing policies, programs, and conditions that allow hunger and poverty to persist, we provide help and opportunity at home and far beyond where we live.

<https://bread.org/>

PRO-LIFE

Shady Grove Pregnancy Center

Assist with Baby Bottle Drive at St. Raphael. Organize a baby shower.

<https://www.pregnancy-options.org/getinvolved.shtml>

Catholic Mobilizing Network to End the Death Penalty

[Corporal Work of Mercy: Visit the prisoners]

Learn more about this organization and how you can make a difference at

www.catholicsmobilizing.org/catholic-social-teaching-death-penalty

Pax Christi Peace Ribbon Project

The Catholic peace organization

<https://paxchristiusa.org/the-peace-ribbon-2020/>

CALL TO FAMILY, COMMUNITY AND PARTICIPATION

Potomac Area Interfaith Communities (PAIC)

St. Raphael is a member of this interfaith association. PAIC hosts an interfaith Thanksgiving worship service and action each November. Young people can participate in the Interfaith Youth Choir, attend the worship service as a presenter or participant, and be involved in the action project.

Contact Mary Beaudoin for information on the November 15, 2023 service and choir.

<https://www.facebook.com/PAIC2020/>

SHELTERS

Rainbow Place

Rainbow Place provides winter emergency overnight shelter to women experiencing homelessness in a safe, caring environment by supportive staff who treat all guests with dignity and compassion. Clients are in residence Nov 1 – Mar 31. Provide a meal by bringing in food, cooking it at the shelter, and/or serving a meal. Register through the website with the volunteer coordinator. Odd jobs out of season include filing, sorting donations, outdoor jobs.

<https://www.rainbowplace.org/s/volunteer>

Address: 215 W. Montgomery Ave. in Rockville

Phone: 301-762-1496

Interfaith Works – Various Shelters

www.iworksmc.org

Stepping Stones

Help by providing meals, filing, organizing the clothes closet, etc. Needs vary by season and the availability of volunteers. Please fill out the application, waivers, and parental consent forms found on the website <http://steppingstonesshelter.org/how-you-can-help/volunteer/>

and email to Madison@steppingstonesshelter.org.

Address: 1070 Copperstone Ct., Rockville, MD 20850

Phone: 301-251-0567

The Corporal Works of Mercy

- Feed the hungry
- Give Drink to the thirsty
- Shelter the homeless
- Visit the sick
- Visit the prisoners
- Bury the dead
- Give alms to the poor

The Spiritual Works of Mercy

- Counseling the doubtful
- Instructing the ignorant
- Admonishing the sinner
- Comforting the sorrowful
- Forgiving injuries
- Bearing wrongs patiently
- Praying for the living and the dead

Gifts of the Holy Spirit

- Wisdom
- Understanding
- Right judgment (counsel)
- Courage (fortitude)
- Knowledge
- Reverence (piety)
- Wonder & awe in God's presence (fear of the Lord)

Themes of Catholic Social Teaching

- Life and Dignity of the Human Person
- Call to Family, Community, and Participation
- Rights and Responsibilities
- Option for the Poor and Vulnerable
- The Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers
- Solidarity
- Care for God's Creation

See information at

<http://www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/what-we-believe/catholic-social-teaching/seven-themes-of-catholic-social-teaching.cfm>