



"As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace." - 1 Peter 4:10

At Baptism, we received the grace that enables us to love and serve others without counting the cost, to see Christ in them, and to avoid hurting them. Grace makes us eager to reach out to others with concern and to use our gifts and talents to meet their needs. Your attitude toward service can teach people how to have a heart for others. When we reach out to others with the joy and strength of the Holy Spirit, we find we are the ones who really receive.

We receive Christ, who lives in those we serve.

SERVICE HOURS 2015-2016 REQUIREMENTS

- <u>Eighth graders and all candidates for Confirmation</u> may begin performing his/her 2015/2016 service hours on June 1, 2015. Each St. Louis School and PRE candidate is required to complete 20 hours of service (at least 7 of which must be in the parish). Half (10) of these hours will be due by December 14, 2015. Remaining hours must be completed and submitted by April 2016 (exact date will be announced after Confirmation date is determined).
- Each <u>St. Agnes/St. Dominic Confirmation candidate</u> is required to complete 5 hours of service (*all of which must be in St. Louis parish*). Deadline will be announced in class after sessions begin in January 2016.
- Seventh graders may begin performing his/her 2015/2016 service hours on June 1, 2015. Each student is required to complete 15 hours of service (5 of which must be parish service). Half (7.5) of these hours will be due by December 14, 2015. Remaining hours must be completed and submitted by May 5, 2016.
- <u>Sixth graders</u> may begin performing his/her 2015/2016 service hours on June 1, 2015. Each student is required to complete 10 hours of service (3 of which must be parish service). Half (5) of these hours will be due by December 14, 2015. Remaining hours must be completed and submitted by May 5, 2016.
- <u>Fifth graders</u> may begin performing his/her 2015/2016 service hours on June 1, 2015. Each student is required to complete 5 hours of service (2 of which must be parish service). Half (2.5) of these hours will be due by December 14, 2015. Remaining hours must be completed and submitted by May 5, 2016.

SERVICE HOURS 2015-2016 INFORMATION

Parish hours are defined as hours performed in St. Louis Parish that benefit the parish.

Community hours are defined as hours performed in the community that benefit the greater community.

In general, we do not accept babysitting or yard work as service hours, but there are certain situations where those hours are acceptable. Please check with Mr. Walker, Mrs. Williams or your PRE teacher first.

A 2015-16 St. Louis Parish service hour form should be completed. The approved form can be found on our church website at http://stlouischurchmphs.org under the forms link, on the school website at http://stlouismemphis.org, at the Church office front desk, in the altar server vesting room, and in Mr. Walker's and Mrs. Williams' classroom. This form requires a signature from someone at the agency or organization where you provided service to confirm your hours. The signature must be on the form. Parent signatures are never accepted as an approving agent.

Signatures should be obtained as the hours are performed. If, for some reason, this is not possible, students and candidates will have one month after the service was performed to obtain the appropriate signatures. After one month, service hours without signatures will be considered expired.

Service hours can never be earned during the school day.

Students should also not combine Confirmation service hours with service hours for other organizations (i.e. Beta Club, National Junior Honor Society, school requirements, etc.).

Students do not receive service hours for working fundraisers that benefit them.

For example:

- Working the Blue Streak basketball tournament is not service if you are raising money for your mission trip.
- Working the St. Louis Church nursery is not service if you receive payment.
- Serving at a wedding or funeral is not service if you receive a stipend.



DETERMINING YOUR SERVICE HOURS

In determining your community service, try to find service opportunities that directly serve the poor or those in true need of service. Service hours are unpaid hours. A list of pre-approved service suggestions (both community and parish) is attached. A student may choose to conduct all service hours in the parish. If you wish to perform a service not on this list please check with Mr. Walker, Mrs. Williams or your PRE teacher for approval before completing the service.

Pre-Approved Community Service Opportunities

- Feed My Flock (Mary Margaret Koch, mmvkoch@gmail.com)
- Catholic HEART Workcamp (Paul Walker, <u>paul.walker@stlouis.cdom.org</u>)
- Local soup kitchens
- Habitat for Humanity
- Delivering meals to the homebound
- Helping at a Jubilee School
- Blue Streak Foundation (373-1205; http://www.bssf.net/)
- Associated Catholic Charities (722-4700; http://www.ccwtn.org/)

Pre-Approved Parish Service

- Altar Server at St. Louis Church at weekend Masses
- St. Angela Ministry (Barbara Evangelisti, babse@comcast.net)
- St. Louis Cardinal 5K
- Delivery of Christmas or Easter flowers to the homebound of the parish (255-1951)
- Help in the parish office (255-1951)
- Hole-In-One
- St. Louis Church nursery (Margaret Canale, 255-1963)
 - o You must be trained and scheduled to work in the nursery.
 - Please do not show up unscheduled.

These are certainly not the only hours you can perform. If you have other ideas for service to the community or parish, talk with your teacher.