

Confirmation Service Hour Policy

"Jesus came to Nazareth where he had been reared and entering the synagogue on the Sabbath as he was in the habit of doing, he stood up to do the reading. When the book of the prophet Isaiah was handed him, he unrolled the scroll and found the passage where it was written: 'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; therefore he has anointed me. He has sent me to bring glad tidings to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives, recovery of sight to the blind and release to prisoners, to announce a year of favor from the Lord.'"

Lk 4, 16-22

Recognizing that service to others is an integral part of our Roman Catholic identity, all students are required to give of their time and talent to service projects during their year in Confirmation Class. All students are to complete no less than 15 hours. It is expected that all students engage in service with agencies that provide opportunities for our students to encounter and assist persons who have various needs. With the approval of their parents/guardians, students will offer their time and talents to agencies that provide services to "those in need" throughout the greater community. This is to be a ministry of "person to person." The students are asked to serve others in agencies or organizations such as hospitals, convalescent hospitals, retirement homes, elementary schools, parish churches or charity agencies.

A parent/guardians' (non-profit) workplace may qualify as an approved agency; however, the parents/guardians may not be the signing agency supervisor. Hours for office work, filing, office errands, animal shelters, retailers and non-approved agencies or non-approved projects will not be accepted.

The student must submit completed and accepted Service Verification forms in their file in the Religious Education by April 30th, 2011. Service Verification forms will be accepted after the agency has been confirmed and the theological reflection has been approved.

The reflection question is, "How did this service experience impact you and your faith." The expectations are that the responses are thoughtful and not something written in a rush just to turn something in. The difference will be evident. You will be asked to resubmit your paragraph response, until this is completed these hours will not be accepted.

1/3rd of the student's hours must be completed at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church or School. To be safe one should verify if the service will be acceptable before performing them.

The Director of Religious Education, working with members of in the SJB faculty and staff will provide suggestions and listings of approved off site agencies and Student Christian Service opportunities. Confirmation is contingent upon the completion of required Christian Service Hours.

Parents/Guardians will be advised of the status of their student's completion of the required hours via email or telephone. If there is a service hours deficiency, parents/guardians with child will be required to meet with the Director of Religious Education. It is hoped that parents/guardians will keep aware of and encourage their student's service.

"Do little things with great love."

-Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta