

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

Dear Middle School Families,

2021

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 6<sup>th</sup> -8<sup>th</sup> grade middle school students to work on developing a life of service by meeting a goal of 9 hours of service per year. Our 5<sup>th</sup> grade students should complete 6 hours. This year due to Covid 19 all 6/9 hours should be completed for family. Students will not be expected to complete any hours for school/parish or community. If a student has the opportunity to do service in the other categories, it will count toward their goal. 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 9 hours per year will not be allowed to participate in the 8th grade fun day. 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 13<sup>th</sup> for the 8th graders and May 27<sup>th</sup> 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, October 1<sup>st</sup>.

Below 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. Tews, and Mrs. Gilbertson

- Babysit
- Clean out the garage/attic
- Wash/vacuum the car
- Wash windows
- Paint
- Organize cupboards
- Yard work
- Clean Grandma’s house
- Give your parents a night off by making dinner and doing the dishes for them

Service activities should be things you normally do not do and are not part of your responsibilities at home. Many of the things we do at home are just part of being a family and should not be counted as service hours.

Service done for relatives counts towards family hours. (Example: babysitting cousins, mowing Grandma’s lawn, etc.)