



Community Service Works - Year 1

The Sacrament of Confirmation will help you make a deeper commitment to follow Jesus and his Church. You will receive the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit to help you do so. It is also a time to begin putting your faith into action!

Does the way that you behave tell others that you are a Christian, a follower of Christ? It is not enough to simply know about God and your faith. It is all about putting your faith into action. How do you put your faith into practice? Do you go out of your way to help others? How often?

As you prepare for Confirmation, you are asked to participate in **at least 15 hours of service** to help others in need. The service works should fall in line with the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy. They can be further linked to our families, our parish, and our community. All vitally important areas for a Catholic to show their love of Christ and the Church to others.

Corporal Works of Mercy	Spiritual Works of Mercy
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To feed the hungry.• To give water to the thirsty.• To clothe the naked.• To shelter the homeless.• To visit the sick.• To visit the imprisoned, or ransom the captive.• To bury the dead.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To instruct the ignorant. This work of mercy means all of us are called to share and teach the faith passed on to us. ...• To counsel the doubtful. (Give advice)• To admonish the sinner. (Correct those who need it.)• To bear wrongs patiently. (Be patient)• To forgive offenses willingly.• To comfort those who suffer.• To pray for the living and the dead.

We have included some suggestions in each area of service, however, feel free to check with the teacher and use some creative ideas of your own. Think of this as a Christian internship, where you can try a variety of service opportunities to practice the corporal and spiritual works of mercy, which is how Jesus wanted us to live.

Remember you are giving your time and talent to others, so keep these thoughts in mind:

- Service projects or volunteer, **you are not to be paid for them.**
- Your actions are not just a job to be done. They should be completed selflessly and lovingly for those in need. Have fun and find the joy in doing service with a smile!



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- Reflect on how your actions are helping you to take on the mind and heart of Christ, fulfilling the needs of others and building up the Christian community.
- Giving of your time and talent continues after Confirmation and all through your life.

Parish (5 hours)

- Assist with parish activities like working at the parish picnic or fish fries. Watch the bulletin for opportunities.
- Read to parishioners in the nursing home. (Contact the rectory for a list)
- Baby-sit for parish functions.
- Welcome new parishioners with cards, cookies, etc. (Get a list from the rectory).
- Help clean up around church, school, sister-less house or other parish properties.
- Assist with Vacation Bible School.

Community (5 hours)

- Assist elderly neighbors with chores and errands.
- Deliver meals to the homebound.
- Organize a clothing, food or toy drive in your neighborhood.
- Volunteer at a food pantry, soup kitchen or free meal program.
- Start or help with a recycling program.
- Welcome new neighbors with cards, cookies, a visit, etc.
- Organize/participate in Christmas caroling to raise money for the poor.
- Participate in pro-life events or other activities promoting the dignity of life.
- Prepare and arrange for delivery of care packages to overseas military personnel, missionaries, Peace Corps volunteers, children in hospitals, sick and housebound, etc.
- Volunteer with children with disabilities (through Special Olympics, at the hospital, etc.)
- Participate in and raise money for Relay for Life
- Volunteer at the Freeburg Homecoming, Chili Cook-off and park events.

Family (Five hours)

- Organize a family picnic or outing.
- Tutor or read to younger sibling.
- Perform yard work or other chores for a family member outside your own home (Grandparents, aunts or uncles, etc.).
- Babysit for family members outside your own home.

Normal household chores should not be used for service hours. These are actions that should be expected from contributing family members

