



2021 MARATHON GENERAL INFORMATION

WHAT IS THE MARATHON?

Holy Trinity Catholic School's annual Service Marathon is a wonderful tradition for our school. Since 1971, we have participated in the Minnesota Marathon for Nonpublic Education; however, the event has looked different through the decades. This year the day of our event will include Mass, a prayer walk, a special lunch and NEW... service opportunities for our students to spread our community's love of God with others in word and deed. The Marathon is our biggest fundraising opportunity in the form of donations for our prayers and service.

HOW DOES THE MARATHON RAISE MONEY?

As we kick things off, Marathon envelopes are going home with each family. Information is enclosed to assist families in securing donations. Students are asked to share with friends, family members, and neighbors the great things we are accomplishing at Holy Trinity and ask for a donation. The money raised goes directly to the school to support our programs and instructional materials.

Holy Trinity participates in the marathon because we get 100% of the dollars donated. This fundraiser gives us numerous opportunities to teach our children about service and stewardship and at the same time builds school spirit! The cause is obviously great and it supports all aspects of our school. We don't split the money with a company because we are not selling anything and there is very little overhead. If someone gives you \$25, Holy Trinity gets \$25 - it's that simple!

As our Marathon assists in our ability to meet our operational costs, every family is expected to participate. Our goal this year is \$35,000 which equates to \$250 per student K-8. We also have a super goal of \$40,000 that we are going to stretch to reach! Reaching our \$35,000 pledge goal is a challenge. But when everyone gets behind it, it IS successful! In years past, a large number of our families go well above that number, many come close and some are not as active. We need everyone to do their part! There are lots of fun incentives for those students who work to support the Marathon effort and you can find more details in this packet.

We also have a super goal of \$40,000 that we are going to stretch to reach! Fr. Echert and Mrs. Woodard have a super secret reward planned should we reach it.

Donations can be made by cash, check or online / QR code. On Marathon Monday, monies collected are turned in to school and credited to the students.



HOW DOES THE MARATHON EVENT WORK?

Our Service Marathon itself will be on Friday, October 8th. The day will begin by gathering together for Mass. We will then walk in small groups to the park where we will pray for special intentions and enjoy a picnic lunch.

Our good deeds will continue once we return to school, so the afternoon will consist of in-house service projects. Students will return to their classrooms after lunch to participate in their special project. It is never too early to start teaching our younger children the joy of giving and stewardship.

WHAT CAN WE DO TO SUPPORT THE MARATHON?

Our Service Marathon is a wonderful annual event that serves as a strong learning experience for our students. They learn how to love and serve their community, they begin to understand the value of teamwork, and they realize the importance of stewardship.

We will be inviting parents to join us in preparing for the day and for our actual Marathon event to assist in a variety of tasks. There will be volunteer opportunities in all grades if you'd like to get involved so make sure your Essential 3 training and background checks are complete and up to date. This takes some time to complete, so don't wait until the last minute!

<https://holytrinityssp.org/safe-environment>

Encourage your child(ren) to obtain donations for their service. Set a family goal and work with your child(ren) to achieve this goal together. We will share sample emails in our Marathon Monday e-blasts and also posting on social media so you can share as well! Here are a few other proven (even old school) strategies to try:

- Share our social media posts on your facebook page.
- Send an email or letter to friends and family with a very basic explanation of the Marathon. Schedule time with your child to make a few phone calls. Children CAN make this call and are actually INCREDIBLE at it!
- If your child is going door to door, please go with them and encourage them to wear their uniform or Holy Trinity spirit gear.
- Keep notes on the pledges you receive. Be sure to send a thank you note! This helps next year for repeat pledges and for you to have a starting point!

HOW WILL I LEARN MORE ABOUT THE MARATHON?

Your family will be receiving information for the Marathon in our weekly Marathon Monday E-blasts. This update will keep you posted on events leading up to the Marathon and important information about the day of the Marathon. If you are not getting these, please let us know. They will be coming via Mailchimp from "htcommunications@holytrinityssp.org".