

# Service Projects – Community Service

## What is it all about?

The purpose of Service Project is to help the Confirmation Candidate exhibit a sense of responsibility and spiritual maturity by carrying out specific number of service projects (minimal of four) during the time of his/her preparation. Living a life of service means keeping our eyes and ears open. People with needs live throughout the city, the nation, and the entire world. Yet, the closest to us all are our families.

The total hours required for Confirmation Candidates are:

1. Year I: 12-15 hours minimum 3 Service Projects. Write reflection for each service
2. Year II: 16-20 hours minimum 4 Service Projects. Write reflection for each service.



## Project Guidelines

1. Projects must be approved by teacher and done in the following context:
  - a. **Family:** engage on doing something that you do not usually do something that your family really need.
  - b. **Parish:** serve in a liturgical ministry, join church groups, assist with the events of your parish like the Festival, free babysitting in the parish events, tutoring, being a teen leader at the First Communion Retreat, etc...
  - c. **Neighboring or larger community:** visit the elderly and help them with cleaning, shopping, etc.../organizing and help with clean-up projects in the neighborhood/tutoring young children/visit convalescent centers, nursing homes, hospitals/collect food for the poor and delivering it/assist in meal programs for the poor and elderly/and your creative ways of giving to others.
2. Minimum of 4 hours spent on a single project with a signature from the person in charge.
3. Steps:
  - a. Pray to the Holy Spirit for guidance
  - b. Talk with your sponsor and parents about what you think you would like to do as a project.
  - c. Plan it out with your sponsor, using the handout "Service Project Worksheet"
  - d. Find out the real needs of the people in your family, neighborhood, parish, school or community...
  - e. Complete the project.
  - f. Write the Service Project Reflection Report.

## Project Suggestions

Before making a commitment to a service project, think about the variety of ways in which you can use your talents and abilities to help others. These suggestions are only some of the ways other candidates have chosen to serve. Perhaps some things on this list will help you decide the service you would like to perform. The list may give you some other ideas on what you would like to do, perhaps you have your own special service in mind.

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Join parish groups: choir, altar servers,</li><li>b. Collect food for the poor (Thanksgiving Food Drive)</li><li>c. Collect toiletries and/or toys for poor children (Christmas Gifts)</li><li>d. Lenten Rice Bowls (Catholic Relief Service)</li><li>e. Help with Parish Festivals</li><li>f. Serve as a teacher's aid in the children with special needs program, or the children liturgy</li><li>g. help in the school bookstore, library or cafeteria</li><li>h. Initiate a "Clean Up" campaign in the parish, school, or local park, etc.</li><li>i. Do yard work at the school or parish</li><li>j. Visit the elderly in a nursing home</li><li>k. Organize or help with recycling projects: collect can, etc.</li><li>l. Tutor younger brothers and sisters after school</li><li>m. Shop for an elderly neighbor or relative</li><li>n. Write Gratitude Letters to Nurses and Doctors who are in the frontline at this COVID-19 Pandemic.</li><li>o. Write cards or letter to hospitalized children or teens or those in prison.</li></ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>p. Write Letter or make cards for Religious sisters, brothers, and priests</li><li>q. Write letters to government officials about justice issues</li><li>r. Collect, clean, and repair clothing for the poor.</li><li>s. Collect food for the poor</li><li>t. Volunteer at the food bank</li><li>u. Prepare a meal or dessert for a family whose parent or child died</li><li>v. Collect toys for children of the in-need families</li><li>w. Read to the blind or elderly or Make the Audio Books for the blind or elderly.</li><li>x. Prepare entertainment or holiday parties for nursing homes or childcares centers.</li><li>y. Attend Parish Adoration.</li><li>z. Pray the Rosary in front of the Plan Parenthood Center for ending of abortion on Tuesday</li></ol> |
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- \*\*\* Participating in the Year of St. Joseph's Celebration \*\*\*

# Service Project Reflection Page



NAME \_\_\_\_\_ CLASS DAY \_\_\_\_\_ TIME \_\_\_\_\_ TEACHER: \_\_\_\_\_

Journal your reflections for each of your service projects. Make sure to answer the following questions of **what**, **when**, and **how**, and go into detail in describing everything. Be sure to challenge yourself to compare your actions to a similar action of Christ. Give reference to a particular scripture passage from the Bible that relates to your project. This would be a good time to work with your sponsor.

**1** What \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
When \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
How \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**2** What made me decided to do this project was that... \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**3** These are my feelings and thoughts about the project that I did \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**4** This project was able to help me to experience God because ... (through a person or incident) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**5** If I could have the chance to do this project again, this is what I would do differently... \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**6** MY PRAYER FOR MY NEIGHBOR/LARGE COMMUNITY (something that my COMMUNITY really need that I want to ask God for) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

DATE OR TIME BEGAN _____	DATE OR TIME COMPLETED: _____ HOURS _____
PROJECT: _____	SIGNATURE OF THE PERSON IN CHARGE: _____