

CONFIRMATION SERVICE PROJECT:

What is Confirmation anyway?

Confirmation is an outpouring of the Holy Spirit and becoming a fully initiated member of the Catholic Church!

What does this mean?

We are part of a COMMUNITY!!! A world-wide community which has been commissioned to live as Christ! We are taught to be our “brother’s keeper” and to serve the community. Jesus himself said, “whatever you did for one of the least of my brothers you did for me.” Matthew 25: 40

Service hours are not just about getting them over with, they are about experiencing living and loving as Christ. This is why we are required to experience several types of service.

What is Required?

In our Archdiocese you are required to complete a minimum of 21 hours of service in order to be considered ready for Confirmation. These hours are broken up into 3 categories:

- 7 “Family” hours
- 7 “Parish” hours
- 7 “Community” hours

What counts for which category?

Parish Service: Parish hours are spent in aiding the parish community of St. Joseph Church. They focus on being an active member of our parish community. Some examples of this are being an assistant for CCD, helping with Liturgical Ministry (that is lector, usher, greeter, altar server) and other parish-sponsored outreach.

Family Service: Family hours have to be OVER AND ABOVE what you NORMALLY do as part of your family responsibilities. If you are always in charge of mowing the lawn, then that doesn’t count for your family service hours. These hours should focus on building up and serving the family. Go out of your comfort zone. Every family is different. Discuss some extra things you can do to serve your family.

Community Service: Community hours should focus on helping the local community. Some examples are making casseroles for Beans and Bread or Our Daily Bread, serving at a soup kitchen, volunteering at a nursing home, volunteering for the Humane Society, coaching for Parks and Rec, working with literacy programs, helping with roadside clean-ups, etc.

There can be overlap!!! Sometimes you will have to make a decision which category you want your hours to go towards, this is normal. If you have any questions you can always call the Youth Ministry office!

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What are the Service Project Guidelines?

- You cannot accept payment for ANY of your service hours
- You cannot “double-up,” that is, count any of your Confirmation service hours also for school hours etc and visa versa
- These hours have to be DONE- all of them done- by your first Confirmation class in January
- No hours count before today unless previously approved by the Youth Ministry office. The hours pre-approved were:
 - Spring 2009 Chicken Dinner
 - Spring 2009 Manners Tea
 - Spring 2009 Spaghetti Dinner

The lists of the candidates who worked these functions have already been submitted to the Youth Ministry office

- All your service hours need to be logged and signed off on the Service Log attached to this sheet (the hours mentioned above which were previously approved need to be written on the Service Log but do not need to be signed off)
- All Confirmation service hours are the candidate’s responsibility NOT the parents! You need to seek out the service opportunities, make the appropriate phone calls and perform the service.
- And finally... You have to write a reflection paper on your service experience

What are some service ideas?

- Look on the Youth Ministry website for a list of suggested service opportunities!!!

www.stjoefullerton.org/SJYM

What exactly is the Service Project Reflection?

- The Reflection needs to be at least one page: typed, double spaced, size 12 font
- All reflections need to be PROOF-READ and TYPED
- Keep notes after each time you serve on the back of the Service Log
- Some things to include will be:
 - What did you do?
 - Why did you choose the projects you did?
 - Who benefited from the experience and how?
 - Did you have to prepare for the projects and if so, how?
 - How did this experience impacted you?
 - Was it what you expected? How or how not?
 - Etc

