

Guidelines for Community Service

“Here I am, Lord. I come to do your will”

As Christians, our faith in God is manifested through our love and concern for, and service to others. In the Gospel of St. John, when Jesus washed the feet of his disciples, He said, “As I have done, so you must do.” By reaching out, we learn more about the needs of other people. Our talents, that we so often take for granted, are more greatly appreciated and developed. With Jesus as our model, we give back to our communities through the gifts that God has given us.

To study and learn about your faith is one thing, but to put it into action is to live your faith. As St. James wrote, “Faith without works is dead” (James 2:17). The parish enjoys and needs the energy and talents of our younger members.

Expectation: All students in St. Theresa’s Religious Education program are encouraged to discover their God given talents and ways in which they can serve those around them. For High School students, however, community service is added as a requirement to our program. This is especially important in the two year preparation for the sacrament of Confirmation (ie. 10th and 11th grades). Some service activities are built into the yearly schedule, but **at least one major or 2 smaller additional projects are expected from each student.**

Suggestions for community service:

Major project:

- Serve regularly at parish liturgies.
This could be as an altar server, in the choir, as a lector, as an usher, or helping monthly with our Children’s Liturgy of the Word at the 9am Mass.
- Help monthly with one of St. Theresa’s food ministries (preparing, delivering or serving).
- Help with monthly coffee/donuts ministry after Masses.
- Volunteer at a local hospital or nursing home on a regular basis.
- Volunteer with a High School Tutoring or Youth Sports Program
- Help with St. Theresa’s Vacation Bible School (summer)

Smaller projects (choose at least 2):

- Assist with St. Theresa’s STEP/Women’s group vendor Craft Fair (Nov. 12, 2011 – 2hr shift)
- Assist with STEP or Men’s group breakfasts or events
- Assist the Peace and Justice ministry with an event or activity
- Assist with Grade 2, 1st Reconciliation or 1st Eucharist retreats (Dec. 10, 2011 or April 28, 2012)
- Get sponsors and walk in the CROP Walk (Oct. 16 – 1pm)
- Help with the Christmas Eve liturgy/pageant
- Help decorate the church for Christmas and/or Easter
- Hide Easter eggs for Easter Sunday (April 8, 2012)
- Help at Confirmation (TBA – May 2012)

This is not meant as an exhaustive list, be creative, try something new, get involved!

Students should complete a Community Service form and submit it to their teacher or the DRE by March. (additional forms are available from St. Theresa’s web site or from the Rel. Ed. Office)

**St. Theresa's Religious Education Program
Community Service Form**

Name: _____

Grade: _____

_____ Major project

_____ Smaller project

Description of Service:

Date(s) of service: _____

Signature of student

Time spent at service: _____

_____ 2nd smaller project

Description of Service:

Date(s) of service: _____

Signature of student

Time spent at service: _____