

"Service projects should be transformational; for this reason, Christian Service is a critical component of the Sacramental preparation of a candidate."

Christ calls all of us to fulfill our baptismal promise of love through Christian service. It is especially recommended by the Archdiocese of Hartford that students who are in a preparation program for Confirmation experience this critical call in a "transformational" way. Our community is asking you to take this challenge and find opportunities to transform, to change, to alter your hearts through service.

We will no longer be counting hours or filling out signed service sheets. Instead, you are asked to find time each month this year to serve someone else. You will log this service in to a log sheet in your mentor folders each time you come to class (so some classes you may not have anything to log in). Mentors will be asking you about your experience no matter if it was big or small. You will be able to hear about the wide variety of service that your classmates complete, as well. The division by months is only to help you spread it out; if you do 3 things one month, that's wonderful; they count as three acts of service.

Some guidelines. According to the Archdiocese, service should

- Be representative of the Corporal Works of Mercy or completed in the parish
- Be something you are not required to do
- Be something you are not paid for
- Be an experience significant enough to reflect upon

There are 7 months of Confirmation class.

But we only ask you to serve someone else 5 times (but the more, the better).

We ask that at least 2 of those 5 times be parish-based.

We encourage 1 parish-based experience to be Liturgy Host (greeter/coffee and).

We will use the bulletin, the website, a bulletin board in the hall and class announcements to let you know of the other parish-based opportunities for service. It is up to you to check these places frequently.

Examples of service include: collecting mittens in your neighborhood for library mitten tree, raking leaves for an elderly neighbor, babysitting once for free, Salvation Army bell ringing, using your own money to buy a few extra cans of food to donate, collecting and donating slightly used dog toys to the pound, making and donating a "tie" baby blanket, calling the Rectory after Thanksgiving and asking to be called when chairs need to be set up for Christmas Eve mass, giving out Halloween candy for a neighbor so he can go trick-or-treating with his own kids.