

CONFIRMATION SERVICE PROJECTS

GRADE 7 AND 8

At the end of every Mass we are sent out to the world (to our homes, to our schools, sports teams, clubs, friends, our community) to serve. We are to bring Jesus' love and joy that we have received to others. We can do this through stewardship.

Stewardship is the sharing of our time, talent and treasure out of *gratitude* to Almighty God for all the blessings that He has bestowed upon us. In preparation for Confirmation, it is important that we reflect on and identify those areas in our lives where we excel and find a way to share them with others, especially the marginalized. This is an opportunity for self-reflection to see what gifts God has given you.

For both Confirmation I (Grade 7) and Confirmation II (Grade 8) you are to participate in two service opportunities. Before the pandemic we required one church service and one community service. During the pandemic it is imperative that your service be completed safely. This may mean that you turn to your family, the domestic church, as a recipient of your efforts. Service opportunities may also be offered through your school. Most parish activities have been canceled due to the pandemic but if a service opportunity at the parish arises we will notify you.

1. Service requirements for Confirmation I and II:

TWO family or community/school projects- You may participate in a community organized project, toy drive etc. or you may also decide on your own project such as a blanket drive for local shelter(s) of your choosing, hat and mitten drive, sock drive, collecting and providing food for shelters or a neighbor in need, assembling toiletry kits. In a creative way, show appreciation and support for Emergency and medical personnel, front line responders, your teachers, bus drivers.

If the pandemic prohibits you from participating safely in a community project, you may have your family be the recipient of your efforts: perhaps you will plan and prepare meal(s) for your family or grandparents, organize the cleaning of your basement or garage, clean out your closets and give clothes/shoes to those less fortunate, help elderly family members or neighbors with various chores. Ask your family for help with ideas to serve your loved ones.

2. Write a reflection on each of your experiences.

Your reflection paper should be at least one page in length (typed, double spaced):

- a. **Opening paragraph** – What the nature of your service was and why you chose this service project.
- b. **Second paragraph** – How you encountered Christ through the person/people you served.
- c. **Third paragraph** – How you modeled Christ to the person/people you served.
- d. **Closing paragraph** – Summarize your experience, your thoughts and what you learned from this project.

3. Due date for both 7th and 8th Grade: 1st Sunday in February

Submit your service reflection in a timely manner. **If not** handed in, in a timely manner, the reflections will be due by the **1st Sunday in February** of each respective year. However, you are encouraged to write your reflection shortly after you have completed your service.

For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me. Matthew 25:35-36