**Service Hours**

5 Hours due each year for year 1 and 2 students.

A **total of 20 hours** due by **April 1st for year 3 students**

The rationale behind this requirement is to encourage the candidates for Confirmation to become an active part of our faith community. Our task as Christians is to transform the world through love and justice. And, only one kind of person transforms the world spiritually—one with a concern and love for others. To serve is a true gift for both the recipient and the giver. It is important not only to listen and understand the Word of God, but also to apply the lessons we learn in everyday life. This is essential to living as a Christian and following Jesus’ footsteps. The connection between Confirmation +and service is this: That each confirmed Christian has a calling and a responsibility to serve as Jesus Christ did. Confirmation is our yes to being “Christ Like”, therefore we must reflect Christ in our actions. God calls us to serve and we say, “Here I am, Lord!” This is also an opportunity for the candidates to explore ways in which they can be of service to our parish and the community at large.

**Guidelines & Requirements:**

1. All confirmation candidates will be responsible for a total of 20 Hours of service due at the end of their third year*.*  It is suggested that students finish at least five hours after their first year. It is suggested that students finish at least 10 hours by the completion of their second year. It is the student’s responsibility to sign in and out at service events, so hours can be recorded by the coordinator.
2. Group service activities will be offered throughout the year. It is the participant’s responsibility to sign up for these service hours offered by the confirmation program.
3. The candidates should participate in the service activities offered. Each young man or woman needs to be attentive to the total obligation. In an effort to foster community, no more than 10 hours of offsite service will be accepted. Outside service hours should pertain to the following:
	1. These hours of service should reflect work done beyond the usual chores and duties done at home or regular service done for school activities and or clubs/sports.
	2. Outside service hours should be done for a non-profit group or organization that serves those in need in our local community.

Examples would include:

- Feeding the homeless

- Reading to seniors

- Volunteering at a shelter, library, city program, etc.

**If a candidate decides to do service hours outside of the scheduled church activities they must turn in a signed St. Margaret Mary service hour form or have the person in charge sign a letter explaining the activity.**