



## The Parish of Saint Catherine of Siena Religious Education

### Service Hours Due: March 15, 2023

*"Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me" (Mt 25:40)*

#### **Service Hours for Confirmation**

St. Catherine of Siena Parish requires all Confirmation Candidates to complete:

#### **A minimum of twenty (20) hours of community service**

Confirmation candidates should use the attached Service Hours Register to keep track of their service hours. (Additional documents produced and signed by other volunteer organizations can also be attached to the Service Hours Register to verify hours completed.) Service hours must be completed through **volunteer** service; work completed with any remuneration does not qualify as service work.

The goal of all faith formation is the deepening of a personal relationship with Jesus Christ through greater personal conversion- but faith is also supposed to lead us towards greater charity in love of God and in turn in love of neighbor. Service opportunities provide candidates for Confirmation an opportunity to place their faith into action.

*Ideas for service can be found on page 3 & 4.*





**The Parish of Saint Catherine of Siena  
Religious Education  
Service Hours Ideas and Suggestions**

Why do we do service hours for Confirmation? Because Jesus taught us to always serve others.

*“The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’” Matthew 25:40*

And He gave us these Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy as our guide.

**Spiritual Works of Mercy**

1. To admonish the sinner.
2. To instruct the ignorant.
3. To counsel the doubtful.
4. To comfort the sorrowful.
5. To bear wrongs patiently.
6. To forgive all injuries.
7. To pray for the living and the dead.

**Corporal Works of Mercy**

1. To feed the hungry.
2. To give drink to the thirsty.
3. To clothe the naked.
4. To visit the imprisoned.
5. To shelter the homeless.
6. To visit the sick.
7. To bury the dead.

With these Works of Mercy in mind, we offer these service opportunities as a help:  
(NB: Not a comprehensive list; feel free to add your own ideas!)

**Start Where You Are**

- Return to the program you grew up: soccer, basketball, baseball, dance, gymnastics, etc. Find out if you can be a student leader/teacher to help younger kids.

**In Your Neighborhood and for Others**

- Pick up trash in your neighborhood, in a town park, or a commuter parking lot.
- Help an elderly person. (examples: rake/clean a yard, clean a basement, carry and put away groceries, weed a garden bed).
- Read to a child or an older person, who is not a family member.
- Write a card or letter to a resident of an elderly home, or to a soldier.
- Additional opportunities for service can be found through the Catholic Service Corps sponsored by the Diocese of Bridgeport: <https://csc.tinyhelper.org/>

## Service Hours Ideas and Suggestions

### At Rel Ed

- Limited opportunities are available in the Rel Ed program to be a Catechist Aide or Hall Monitor. Positions are available by interview. Contact Mrs. Tristine for information.
- Help the 3<sup>rd</sup> Graders with Sacrament Preparation. Opportunities include helping at the workshops, being a welcome team member at or running the livestream camera for Sacrament Masses. Contact Mrs. Tristine for information.
- A few opportunities for service are made available throughout the 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade year during Rel Ed classes.

### Social Justice and Community Outreach:

- Collect non-perishable food items for the S.O.M.E. bench in the lobby of our Church (*any time*). To make the most of this opportunity, we suggest that you create a flyer for your 'food drive;' advertise it with your friends/family, neighbors, and any sport teams or after school groups you participate in; then collect & sort the items; package and deliver them to the S.O.M.E Bench in the Church Lobby. All the time you spend promoting your 'food drive' counts as service!
- Work one or more of the Social Justice drives.

### Participation in Liturgical Events at St. Catherine's:

- Be an Altar Server.
- Join the Welcome Team.
- Sing in the Children's Choir (*as available*).
- Attend Holy Thursday Mass and participate in the procession (*Lent*).
- Attend Corpus Christi Mass and participate in the procession (*June*).

### Offer Your Prayers as an Act of Service

- Participate in the Rosary Walk in the Cemetery for the Faithful Departed (*Nov*).
- Participate in the Holy Hour for Life (*Jan*).
- Participate in 40 Hours Devotion (*Lent*).
- Participate in the Youth Stations of the Cross (*Lent*).
- Attend the Divine Mercy Holy Hour (*Easter*).
- Visit a cemetery, read the gravestones, and pray for the people buried there (*any time*).
- Attend Eucharistic Adoration and pray for a special intention for someone else (*any time*). Adoration takes place at St. Catherine's on Tuesdays from 6-8pm. (& during Lent from 6:30-8:30pm).