



Service Hours Information

Charitable Works are an important component of Catholic social teaching. Charitable Works meet the immediate needs of persons and families. It treats the symptoms of social problems. Charitable Works calls forth a generous response from individuals and responds to particular situations. We are all called to contribute to the needs of our brothers and sisters. Jesus reminds us that generosity and charity are essential to the Christian life. Pope Benedict XVI expresses it in this way, “The church cannot neglect the service of charity anymore than she can neglect the sacraments and the word. Charity must animate the entire lives of the lay faithful and therefore also their political activity, lived as social charity”.

Hours are served in three areas: Liturgical (10 hours), Parish (10 hours), and Community (5 hours) for a total of 25 hours served during Grade 9-11.

- 1) **Liturgical Hours:** time spent serving at Mass in a liturgical ministry.

Altar Server	Assists the Priest at Mass.
Usher	Assists the regular ushers with welcoming & seating people, the collection, dismissing pews for Communion, carrying up the gifts, collecting hymnals and putting on shelves, etc...
Reader	Proclaims the Word of God through reading the first and second Scriptures of the Mass.
Choir	Use your voice to praise God through music on weekends and during special Masses.
Children’s Liturgy of the Word	Assist the adult leader with the children’s reading in the Church Hall for the 10 a.m. Mass at Our Lady of Lourdes or the 9 a.m. Mass at St. Joseph.

- 2) **Parish Hours:** volunteering to help out with events/activities at your home Parish or with the Cluster Religious Education. This includes Service Organization events, like the CCW Bazaar, Knights of Columbus Chili Cookoff, etc...
- 3) **Community Hours:** volunteering your time in the local community. Possibilities include raking leaves, shoveling snow, running errands for the elderly, babysitting, volunteering at youth programs, etc... These hours do not include what you do for your immediate family.

Can fundraising hours count toward service hours? Yes, up to 5 hours of fundraising may be counted if any of the following requirements are met:

- 1) Your fundraising is done through working a CCW or Knights of Columbus event where they “gift” money into the fund for you to attend NCYC, Extreme Faith Camp, Steubenville, etc...
- 2) Your fundraising \$ are not for you (i.e. you work an event so that the “gift” from the CCW or KC’s goes to someone else).