

Confirmation Service and Project Information

“Our love for God in action is our service to the poor.” *Blessed Mother Teresa.*

In the Gospel of Matthew 25:40, Jesus says: “As you did it to the least of these my brethren, you did it to me.” This statement has helped to solidify the Roman Catholic Church’s position on social justice issues. Respect for the human person, the equal dignity of all, and human solidarity are core elements of our Catholic faith (see the Catechism of the Catholic Church, part 3, chapter 2, article 3 for more information).

God has given each of us gifts which we are called to share with others. One facet of faith formation is to recognize ways in which we may use our gifts for the benefit of our families, our Church, and our society. First, in order to utilize these gifts as Catholic Christians, we must discover and develop them.

To this end, all Confirmation Candidates at St. Ursula Parish are to participate in a three-pronged service element:

1. For your families, each Candidate is encouraged to help take care of younger siblings or older relatives, or otherwise help the family without complaint. You more than likely already do this: understand this is part of your Catholic Christian duty.
2. For our Church, each Candidate is required to help out at with at least two parish functions and at least two Confirmation Class fundraisers. A parish function can be the Harvest Festival, altar serving, ushering at the 10:30 Mass, packing lunches for Sarah’s hope, baking for school functions, etc. Confirmation Class fundraisers will include “Mom’s night off” at area restaurants, bake sales, attending shows, etc. Instead of asking parents for more money, we want the Candidates to take responsibility for supporting the monetary needs of their formation.
3. For society, each Candidate is required to participate in a long-term service project. This project can be working at Vacation Bible School, Monday night Religious Education, tutoring, regularly visiting a nursing home, babysitting for a single parent, etc. Service must be unpaid, not involve third-party profit, and usually be more than one or two times. Hours do not need to be calculated, but a long-term project should be at least 10 hours of service. Candidates should choose something that matches their interests, and are required to fill out a report detailing their service and its effect.

On the website is a document outlining the long-term service report. Also on the website is a document for keeping track of the service to Church and family. Check the current Confirmation Calendar of Events (also on the website) for due dates.

Remember, this is an opportunity for spiritual growth. Serve with joy in your heart, for God sees even what is hidden.