



WHAT IS FAITH IN ACTION?

"You shall love your neighbor as yourself". Mark 12:31

Although we are called to be of service to each other ALWAYS, each Confirmation Candidate is required to complete a **minimum of 20 hours of Faith in Action** (community service) over the two year program. This includes a minimum of 3 activities here at St. Mary .

Every Christian has a calling and a responsibility to serve as a living example of Jesus' teachings - to serve one another. It is important not only to listen and understand the Word of God, but also to apply the lessons learned, through daily life and service to others. **Matthew 25:32-46** tells us that when we feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, welcome the stranger, clothe the naked, take care of the sick, and visit the imprisoned, we care for Christ himself. *The Corporal Works of Mercy recognize the sacredness of human life. The Spiritual Works of Mercy recognize sin, ignorance, doubt, sorrow and other human conditions where we need to reach out in faith and love to others.*

There, however, seems to be many questions as to what exactly qualifies as "service". Basically, any activity that is of help to someone else, where no payment or fundraising for personal gain is involved—is being of service. The following is a guideline to help you make that determination.

Opportunities are in three major areas: **Community, Parish/School & Home** and may include:

- Any activities here at St. Mary including, but not limited to: altar serving, choir (New Covenant), ushering, coffee social set up & serving, packing food baskets, Vacation Bible School, St. Mary Fair, Giving Tree, special projects, etc. Please see bulletin for opportunities.
- Help care for animals or clean pens at the Humane Society, animal shelters
- Volunteer at the Library, elementary schools, teacher assistants, office helpers
- Help sort, collect food or clothing for the local food banks, Community Sharing, Salvation Army, Purple Heart, Good Will, St. Vincent DePaul
- Volunteer at the Senior Center or any elderly care center
- Yard or housework for needy, elderly or challenged community members .
- Volunteer to coach or referee for community ed. programs, the YMCA, Scouts, etc.
- Tutoring, Catechist assisting

**Upon completion of an activity, please fill out a yellow "Reflection" sheet and attach to the "Faith in Action Log". These forms are available at class or in the Faith Formation office. Keep all reflections with the log form. You will then bring this packet to your interview prior to Confirmation where it will be reviewed by a fellow parishioner.

**"Tell me and I forget
Teach me and I remember
Involve me and I learn".
-Benjamin Franklin**

If at any time you have questions regarding Faith in Action, please contact me at the Faith Formation Office.

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Faith in Action Log

All Middle School (7th/8th grade) Confirmation candidates are to keep this log and completed Faith in Action Reflection (for each activity) in a folder at home. A minimum of 20 hours is required. The distribution of that time is up to you. 8th grade/2nd year candidates will bring completed log with reflections attached to your Confirmation interview.

Name: (Please Print): _____

Grade: _____

Date of Service	Description of Service	Hours of Service	Verified by:	Reflection Attached

HOME SERVICE (6-8 Hours)

PARISH/SCHOOL SERVICE (6-8 Hours)

Date of Service	Description of Service	Hours of Service	Verified by:	Reflection Attached

LARGER COMMUNITY SERVICE (6-8 Hours)

Date of Service	Description of Service	Hours of Service	Verified by:	Reflection Attached