

REQUIRED SERVICE

25 Hours of Christian Service

The Church teaches us that it is the responsibility of the baptized to live the Gospel in the world. The Confirmation Program teaches your sons and daughters to actively preach and spread the Gospel through their daily activities at home, school, parish and community.

Of course, the service project is never an end in itself. Christian service projects should teach your children that loving service pleases God and benefits our neighbor. In a very practical sense, Christian service should direct youth to love God and neighbor. The Confirmation Service Hours are recorded by MobileServe.

25 Hours of Christian Service

Service needs to be completed in the following three areas no later than May 31 for St. Luke School and SMRE candidates:

- 1. Prayer and Public Witness**
- 2. Parish and/or School**
- 3. Community**
- 4. Domestic Church**

Each category for service should be selected. Of the total **25 hours, no category should have less than 3 hours**. For example, a student may choose 16 hours of **Parish and/or School Service**, 3 hours for **Prayer and Public Witness**, 3 hours for **Community**, and 3 hours for **Domestic Church**. Other combinations are possible. A student may even exceed the 25 hours of service. In fact, many candidates do exceed the required number of service hours! Acknowledgement of the top three students who complete the most hours will be made at the Confirmation Mass. Throughout the year, there will be service projects offered in the parish and school that count toward the service requirement.

Candidates may not benefit directly from the service they perform. For example, the hours required to raise money for a school trip to Washington, D.C. will not count toward the service hours. If the candidate **works beyond the hours required**, he/she may earn Christian Service hours.

Altar servers & sacristans may not accept money for funerals or weddings. They may serve a funeral or wedding, but if they receive payment, they may not count the time toward Christian service. An altar server may accept the money and give it to Monsignor Schaedel to put in a charity fund of his choosing. Monsignor Schaedel may also allow the altar server to designate a charity.

More on the Christian Service Categories

Under the category of **PRAYER AND PUBLIC WITNESS**, your child may participate in **public displays of our Catholic faith that are planned in the parish or archdiocese**.

For example, participation in youth events and retreats sponsored by St. Luke Parish or the archdiocese count toward Christian Service hours. Leighann Eckrich is our parish youth minister. You may contact her at leckrich@stluke.org to learn more about activities that provide hours for Confirmation Service.

- Altar serving: Contact Fr. Joe at jmoriarty@stluke.org.
 - Weekday Masses – **School Masses are not included! They may be included if an altar server is absent and a substitute is needed.**
- Sacristan: Contact Leighann Eckrich at leckrich@stluke.org.
- Singing in the parish and school choirs. Contact Mr. Tom Nichols at tnichols@stluke.org.
- Praying in our perpetual adoration chapel. ***The supervisor may be the parent or parishioner who is present while the candidate is in adoration.*** MobileServe must still be used.

Under the category of **PARISH and/or SCHOOL**, your child may participate in a wide variety of tasks and events.

- Service hours may be gained through **all types of approved events** on the parish or school calendars. If there is a question about the type of service, please email me at leckrich@stluke.org.
- The Crowning of Mary by school and SMRE 8th grade students. Participation will be expected, but students may gain at least two hours toward Christian Service.
- **Mrs. Jeffries**, director of spiritual life and formation, will offer opportunities throughout the year for Christian service. Cleaning, decorating and serving meals are some of the projects that may be chosen. Her email is ejeffries@stluke.org.
- For other parish events, contact our volunteer coordinator **Mrs. Hartley** at thartley@stluke.org.
- For spiritual events for youth, contact our youth minister, **Ms. Eckrich** at leckrich@stluke.org.

Under the category of **COMMUNITY**, your child may engage in activities that serve the community beyond St. Luke Parish. With your close supervision, candidates may serve the elderly in the community by raking leaves, shoveling walks, babysitting or tutoring younger children and serving the poor. Below are other suggestions for Community service.

- Helping at local soup kitchens
- Sorting items at the St. Vincent de Paul Warehouse
- Collecting non-perishable food for First Sunday Sharing
- Helping to prepare the Thanksgiving Baskets at St. Luke
- Serving at Beggars for the Poor
- Assisting staff at The Humane Society
- Serving at Wheeler Mission

Under the category of **DOMESTIC CHURCH**, your child may engage in activities that directly benefit parents, siblings and other relatives in the home. The term "Domestic Church" refers to the family, the smallest unit, body or group of gathered believers of Jesus Christ. The term dates back to the first century A.D. The Early Church Fathers understood that the home, where the family resides, is the fertile ground for discipleship, sanctification, and holiness. Parents will be responsible for approving the service rendered by their children on MobileServe.