

Saint James School of Religion

Confirmation Requirement: Service Hours

“Helping a person in need is good in itself. But the degree of goodness is hugely affected by the attitude with which it is done. If you show resentment because you are helping the person out of a reluctant sense of duty, then the person may receive your help, but may feel awkward and embarrassed. This is because he will feel beholden to you. If, on the other hand, you help the person in a spirit of joy, then the help will be received joyfully. The person will feel neither demeaned nor humiliated by your help, but rather will feel glad to have caused you pleasure by receiving your help. And joy is the appropriate attitude with which to help others because acts of generosity are a source of blessing to the giver as well as the receiver.” – St. John Chrysostom

Helping others is a foundational part of Catholic teaching. It is our obligation and our duty. We ask each Confirmation Candidate to perform **10+ hours in Grade 7 and 10+ hours in Grade 8**. Each year we require 5+ hours earned for St. James Parish or School* and 5+ hours earned for our community. Students may serve more than the 10 required hours for each grade, however, a student may not count any of the "additional" hours earned in 7th grade toward his/her 8th grade service.

*1. For those children who are Altar Servers or sing in the Children's Choir, *Praisers*, a maximum of 7 hours may be earned per year for each of these services.

2. Services hours earned through the following organizations are acceptable:

- Service Projects through our Parish (please see the weekly Church bulletin, the School of Religion's weekly e-newsletter or St. James Bold Middle School Ministry - stjames@boldym.com for opportunities)
- Serving at Mass - Lecturer, Usher, etc.
- Matheny School
- Bethel Ridge
- Knights of Columbus, Lyons Club, etc.
- Any charitable organization that aids in the feeding, clothing, housing or educating those in need.

3. The following does NOT qualify as service for Confirmation:

- Babysitting
- Writing notes and letters to relatives or military
- Tutoring
- Yard work/house work at home
- Any service that provides "free labor" for a private company or business
- Any service for a sporting activity, i.e. helping with practices, volunteering at a snack shack, etc. **(participating in 5K Runs are acceptable as long as money raised is for a charitable organization)**

4. Any hours earned through Boy Scouts or Girl Scouts may NOT count toward Confirmation service.

If you would like to serve an organization not listed here, or have any questions regarding Confirmation Service Projects, please contact St. James School of Religion at (908) 766-1227 or email stjamesccd@yahoo.com.

Please submit service forms to the School of Religion Office:

- Scan and email to: stjamesccd@yahoo.com; OR
- Place in Drop Off Bin outside the School of Religion Office; OR
- Mail to: St. James School of Religion, 200 South Finley Avenue, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

PLEASE MAKE COPIES OF ALL FORMS BEFORE SUBMITTING!

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Confirmation Requirement: Service Project Record Form

Please complete a Service Form for EACH Service Project.

Confirmation Candidate and Section (7A, 7B, 8A, 8B, etc.):

Project Name or Description: _____

Date/Time Spent: _____

What I learned (describe feelings or reactions): _____

Signature of parent/guardian or person served as witness to the service hours earned:
