



Service Hours

As was mentioned earlier, you are not the future of the Catholic Church, you *are* the Catholic Church. The Church is not just priests, deacons, nuns and brothers but all of its people. Catholics are a people of action. You are Christ's presence in the world. If you do not act who will?

To help get this idea across we are requiring of you Service Hours or volunteer time both at your parish and in your community. There will be a minimum of **TWENTY HOURS** required of every candidate. (That's about three hours a month.) At least half of these hours I am requesting be made through or for your parish. This includes serving Mass (every Mass, no matter the length, counts as an hour), singing in the choir, volunteering around the parish, joining in any youth group service project, or volunteering at any of the general parish functions. Other opportunities include:

- ✓ Volunteering at the Good Samaritan Hunger Center
- ✓ CYO volunteer program
- ✓ Assist at PSR or attend Junior High Summer Camp service opportunities.
- ✓ Contact Mrs. Cathy Sivec for more opportunities through the youth group.
- ✓ Making a Holy Hour – especially on Tuesdays.
- ✓ Attending a parish concert or prayer service (not Mass) that you would not otherwise have to attend.

The rest of your hours can be from other volunteer activities that are not parish based. These might include volunteering at a food pantry, assisting a neighbor with chores they are not able to do because of physical limitations or age, writing a letter to a service man or woman showing your appreciation (an hour per letter) spending time with a shut in, picking up litter in a public park, or any such service project. If you are wondering if your activity works as a Service Hours requirement please ask right away! If you find yourself being paid to do something that you were hoping to count as service hours, you could donate your pay to the parish or other charitable cause and double the hour. So for example, if you took an hour and cut Miss Magillicutty's lawn for her because she is 90 years old, broke her pinky, and has always been so generous to you and then she gave you \$5 because you are such a nice kid, you could give the \$5 to Catholic Relief Services and count two hours.

Please use the attached sheet to record your hours. I would advise you getting them finished as quickly as possible so that you do not have them hanging over your head.

Make it enjoyable and perhaps discover new ways of being an active Catholic in your parish or as a Catholic assisting your community.