

Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Community Service Hour Completion Form

Directions to students: Fulfill a total of 10 hours of service to be completed by September 8, 2018.

At least five (5) of those hours MUST be in or with Nativity Parish. Five additional hours may be with Nativity Parish, OR from the suggested list below.

All service hours must pertain to either *teaching/sharing the faith* (Matt. 28:19-20) or *taking part in the Corporal or Spiritual Works of Mercy* (Matt. 25:34-40).

Hours may not overlap with any high school service requirements.

"The world tells us to seek success, power and money; God tells us to seek humility, service, and love." (Pope Francis)

Date	Hours	Organization	Location	Description of Service	Signature of Supervisor

I certify that I have completed 10 hours of service at the above stated organizations.

Student Name

Student Signature

Year Seeking to be Confirmed

Parent Signature

Why We Serve

Why do we serve? Mother Angelica reflected, "*We have lost sight at the only reason for giving at all - love. If love and gratitude and a sincere desire to share is not at the root of our giving, we can be assured it is of no value*" (Mother Angelica).

We challenge you not to serve just to check a box to fulfill a requirement, or to have something to put on a college application or job resume, or to pat yourself on the back. The best type of service is done out of love for others and for God. Remember that Jesus said, "*Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me*" (Matthew 25:40).

When we serve with the right intention and a pure heart, we find ourselves being a little less selfish, and a little more human. In serving, we begin to be a little more compassionate to those around us, not just those at the soup kitchen or nursing home, but in the classroom, the cafeteria, the sports field, and in our own homes. We find that we are not only transforming others, but we ourselves are being transformed.

St. Teresa of Calcutta profoundly said, "*The poverty in the West is a different kind of poverty - it is not only a poverty of loneliness but also of spirituality. There's a hunger for love, as there is a hunger for God.*" When we serve, we find that as we alleviate physically poverty, our spiritual poverty is somehow also lessened - both our own and that of the one we serve.

We are asking you to serve - not to have another "hoop" to jump through - but to give you the opportunity to love and be loved; so that you can see Jesus in the faces of those you serve; so that through your serving, you can discover the paradox that truly, "*it is in giving that we receive*" (St. Francis of Assisi).

Go and serve, but as you serve, be mindful to do it with love, for "*in the twilight of life, God will not judge us on our earthly possessions and human successes, but on how well we have loved.*" (St. John of the Cross)

Choose 10 hours of service. At least 5 of those hours need to be at or with Nativity Parish. The other 5 can be with Nativity Parish or another Community organization, as long as the service itself is performing one of the Corporal or Spiritual Works of Mercy. (If you do not know what they are, look them up). See the attached for some ideas of organizations you can contact to help serve. If you are unsure if your activity qualifies, please call the LFF office at 634-3130.

Complete all 10 hours of service and fill in the sheet on the reverse side before handing it in, along with the following reflection:

Choose one of the Service opportunities you participated in and reflect on the experience. On a separate sheet of paper, answer the following in two or three paragraphs:

1. Which work of Mercy did your service activity fulfill?
2. In what way did your experience make an impact on your Christian faith and/or how you view those less fortunate than ourselves?
3. Choose one of the quotes in the above reflection and put in your own words what it means.



Nativity Service Possibilities

All of these count for required hours in or with Nativity Parish. At least 5 or more service hours should be from this list.

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES	LOCATION	FREQUENCY	HELP NEEDED	CONTACT
Nativity Parish 5 PM Sunday Youth Mass	8550 Main Street Nativity Church	2 nd & 4 th Sunday of Each Month	*Greeters and Ushers *Readers *Musicians	Lydia Zielinski 716-634-3130 x329
Nativity Parish 9:30 am Mass - help with Children's Liturgy	8550 Main Street Nativity Church	Weekly (During the School Year)	Assist with teaching and monitoring children during the 9:30am Children's Liturgy	Amy Vossen-Vukelek 716-632-8838 Ext. 9
Nativity Faith Formation Vacation Bible School	8550 Main Street Nativity School	One week M - F in the summer (plus preparation meetings)	Supervise, assist, and lead children during the summer VBS program with skits, songs, games, crafts, activities and more	Lydia Zielinski 716-634-3130 x329
Nativity Faith Formation Volunteer Catechist/ Teacher's Assistant	8550 Main Street Nativity School	Weekly based on FF Schedule (during the school year, or the summer)	Assist in teaching in a classroom of younger students	Maureen Rademaker 716-634-3130 x332
Nativity Youth Ministry Service Team	Meet at 8550 Main Street; may carpool to other areas	Monthly Service Opportunities - Location will vary by month	Go with other Nativity teens to a variety of community service areas, s/a St. Luke's, Harvest House, or within the parish	Lydia Zielinski 716-634-3130 x329
Nativity Faith Formation Seasonal or Sacramental Activities	8550 Main Street Nativity School	Periodic Lifelong Faith Formation Programs often need teen assistance - Opportunities will vary	Assist with Seasonal or Sacramental Preparation Programs or Retreats within the school or parish	Maureen Rademaker or Kim Prisanzano 716-634-3130 x332
Nativity Young Families Ministry Volunteer Opportunities	8550 Main Street Nativity School	Periodic Family Programs often need teen assistance - Opportunities will vary	Offer child care while parents attend a program, or assist with young children within the school or parish	Meghan Rogers 716) 632-8838 x312

Other Service Possibilities

These centers help the homeless, hungry, and poor people in the Buffalo area. You are free to use one or more of them for 5 out of the 10 hours. This is not an exhaustive list. **Any nursing home or food pantry is acceptable.** Any type of service that falls under the Corporal Works of Mercy should qualify. If you are unsure, please call the LFF office at 634-3130, ext 333 to ask.

- Brothers of Mercy Nursing Home - 10570 Bergold Rd, Clarence, NY 14031 (716) 759-6985
- Sacred Heart Home - 4520 Ransom Rd, Clarence, NY 14031 (716) 759-2644
- Sisters of St. Joseph Convent and Infirmary - 10324 Main St, Clarence, NY 14031 (716) 759-6454
- Sisters of St. Francis Convent and Infirmary - 201 Reist Street, Williamsville, NY 14221 (716) 632-2155
- St. Martha Food Pantry - 20 French Rd, Depew, NY 14043 (716) 684-6342
- Nicaragua Mission Project - 10100 Transit Road, East Amherst, NY 14051 info@projectnica.com
- St. Luke's Mission of Mercy - 325 Walden Ave, Buffalo (716) 894-4476
- St. Vincent de Paul Dining Room - 1298 Main Street, Buffalo 882-3360 Ext. 5
- St. Gianna Molla Pregnancy Outreach Center - 76 Church Street, Buffalo (716) 842-2229
- Response to Love Center - 130 Kosciuszko Street, Buffalo (716) 894-7030
- Harvest House Baby & Children's Ministry - 1782 Seneca Street, Buffalo (716) 824-7818
- Little Portion Friary - 1305 Main Street, Buffalo (716) 882-5705
- Vive - 50 Wyoming Ave, Buffalo, NY 14215 (716) 892-4354
- Friends of the Night People - 394 Hudson Street, Buffalo (716) 884-5375
- Habitat for Humanity - 1675 South Park Ave, Buffalo, NY 14220 (716) 204-0740
- Buffalo's Good Neighbors - North Division & Ellicott St, Buffalo, New York 14127 (716) 352-9600

