

Name: _____

Due: March 14, 2021

Serving Our Families, Our Parish Community and Our Community

Seeing Christ in the Catholic Church and throughout the World

As a Confirmation candidate, you are preparing to assume the role of witness for Christ both in the Catholic Church (especially within your parish community) and in the world (especially within your community). See the Catechism #1319.

Directions: During your Confirmation program, you are required to find meaningful, quality ways to serve the domestic church (your family), the Catholic Church (our parish community) and the larger community of St. Peter and the surrounding area

- Your service should be unpaid.
- Your service should be connected to prayer. Ask God how he is calling you, pray for those whom you serve, etc.
- You should serve in ways that you do not normally serve, in order to let God stretch you and show you what He can do through you. *(For example, if you are normally expected to do the dishes at home, then you should also serve in another way at home.)*

In preparation for Confirmation, Candidates will complete 10 hours of service through 3 areas of service. We ask that you serve at least 1 hour in each area (church, community & home). The remaining 7 hours can be allotted however you feel your service is needed.

A strong effort for meaningful and quality service needs to be shown through your thoughtful responses to the following questions. If the quality of the service you completed is in doubt, you will receive follow-up questions from the Coordinator of the Confirmation program.

Before you begin serving, please take some time to reflect...

What are some gifts that God has given you? (For example, are you a good listener? Are you organized? Are you athletic or do you have some musical talent?)

How have you used these gifts in prior service opportunities? What are some new ways that you could use them to serve your family, our parish, and our community?

Serving Your Family:

- Write a paragraph below describing in detail how you served your family. (Remember, if you are already expected to do something like unload the dishwasher, you'll need to serve your family in another way. Besides serving your immediate family, serving your family could include items like watching younger cousins or helping elderly relatives with yard work.)
 - What did you like most about serving your family? What was most difficult? How did you see or experience God through your service? Be specific in what exactly you did and what it was like.
- Pray for the people you served.

Parent Signature: _____ Number of Hours Served: _____

Serving the Parish:

- Write a paragraph below describing in detail how you served at Church of St. Peter or St. Paul Parish.
 - What did you like about serving and what was difficult? How did you see or experience God through your service? Be specific in what exactly you did and what it was like.
- Pray for the people you served.

Parent Signature: _____ Number of Hours Served: _____

Serving the Larger Community:

- Write a paragraph below describing in detail how you served the community.
 - What did you like most about serving? What was most difficult? How did you see or experience God through your service? Be specific in what exactly you did and what it was like.
- Pray for the people you served.

Parent Signature: _____ Number of Hours Served: _____

Service Opportunities at Church of St. Peter Parish

Please note that this list is not exhaustive. You may find a way to serve our parish that was not on our list. Please contact Mary Grack for approval of these ideas if you are unsure if the service is suitable.

- **Maintenance work**, contact Bob Genlin @ 507-931-1628
- **Liturgy Team**, contact Sarah Denn (lector, altar server, usher, etc.) or Barbara Frank (musician) or Heather Gilbertson (Life Teen Mass as musician) @ 507-317-1882, Mary Grack (Life Teen Mass as lector, altar server, usher, etc)
- **St. Peter Thrift Store**: contact Jennifer Schugel-Torres @ 507-931-1628
- **Church Cleaning**: typically before Christmas, watch the bulletin

Service Opportunities in the Surrounding Communities

Please note that this list is not exhaustive. You may find a way to serve our community that was not on our list. Please contact Mary Grack for approval of these ideas if you are unsure if the service is suitable.

- **Vine** – fall yard work – contact 507-387-1666
- **Salvation Army in Mankato** - salvationarmynorth.org/community/mankato/
- **Options Pregnancy Center in Mankato** - optionsmankato.org
- **Tutoring**
- **Helping a neighbor**

Service Opportunities with Social Distancing

There are ways to be a blessing to others while maintaining social distance.

- **Prayer** – Time spent in prayer can be offered up for the needs of our parish and community. Before beginning prayer, simply offer us this time for a specific intention, e.i. Fr. Craig, those who are sick with COVID, anyone who is in isolation, those who have lost their jobs. Then continue to pray. Time in prayer can be spent reading the Bible, praying the rosary, conversation with God, etc...
- **Fasting** – Fasting from food is a powerful tool in our spiritual life. Fasting is considered not eating at a time when you would normally eat. For example, if you normally eat lunch at noon but decide to fast on a particular day, at noon you would say a short prayer offering up this time of fasting for your specific intention instead of eating. Every time you feel hungry during your time of fasting, offer up a prayer again for your intention. The time until you eat again can be counted as service hours provided that your prayer intention was for others.
- **Writing Letters to Homebound** – Many people in Nursing Homes are especially feeling the impact of isolation. Contact Mary Grack if you would like more information about writing letters to those residents of Benedictine Living Community.