

**Confirmation 2017- 2018**  
**An Introduction to Community Service**

Dear Confirmation Candidate,

Welcome to an introduction to community service. As your Parish Outreach Coordinator I am happy that you are joining the many members of our parish community who serve the homeless, hungry, elderly, and children in need. Each experience has several components that help to make it meaningful for those who are served, for the candidate, for the Confirmation Class as well as for the Parish Community. The components are as follows:

1. Each experience will serve as an **introduction to service** that the candidate may choose to repeat as a young adult member of our parish community
2. Each experience will provide **direct contact** with those in need
3. Each experienced would be **documented** by pictures and a written reflection
4. There will be an opportunity to be a Christian **witness to peers** and to the **Parish Community**

The following approximate time frame and descriptions might be helpful in completing the components during this busy year. Registration is completed by June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

- **Part I - Summer 2017 – Serve, Reflect ,Email**  
No later than a week after completing the service experience – Email the first draft of your reflection to [annie@saintgeorgesparish.org](mailto:annie@saintgeorgesparish.org). We will revise it together through an on line conversation to assure that it includes all that is necessary ; a feeling as you entered and left the experience, the first name of a person you met and the advice about life you received from that person. Lastly, a description of one small way you have decided to continue to “live your faith as a disciple of Jesus” this year.
- **Part II - Fall 2017 - Class Presentation** - The final draft of your presentation will be completed and accepted in order to proceed with the Confirmation Preparation Program. It is simply reading your 3 minute reflection out loud. Presentations to your class begin October 29 , 2017.
- **Part III – Parish Presentation** - On the weekend of October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017 your Presentations to the parish will take place through a display in the alcove of the parish hall. Please bring the display board with your typed presentation on it, as well as pictures of your service which can be found in your class “flicker” site. This is due by 3:00 PM on that Saturday.

**Part I - Summer 2017**

Here are brief descriptions of the experiences you will choose from and sign-up for at the first Confirmation meeting June 11, 2017.

**The Mustard Seed** - This experience is an opportunity to respond to Christ's call to “feed the hungry”. You will help to donate, prepare and serve a meal to more than 150 homeless guests at the Mustard Seed - 93 Piedmont Street in Worcester .The service is scheduled on weekdays, 3:30 till 6:30 PM. Candidates will sign up for prearranged dates. Please make and bring Cole slaw for 25 people. (Fill a 10x 13 aluminum pan -recipes can be found on line) This food should be made, by the student, at home and brought with you. Please be dropped off and picked at the Mustard Seed by your family. When we arrive at the Mustard Seed, we will prepare the rest of the meal which is donated by the parish.

**St. John's on Temple Street** - Christ spent a great deal of time sharing meals and listening compassionately to others. This is an opportunity to do the same, by being part of hospitality to guests in need, who come for a mid morning meal at St. John's Catholic Parish (St. Francis Xavier Center) - 40 Temple St - in Worcester, from 7:30 until 10:30 AM, on pre-arranged mornings. You are to be dropped off and picked up there by your family. Please bring 2 decks of cards.

**Interfaith Hospitality Network** – This experience is for Confirmation Candidates who are interested in being part of hosting, doing a children's project, donating, gardening and /or serving a meal with 6 homeless families at the Interfaith Hospitality family shelter at 91 June Street in Worcester. The time of service is from 5:30 PM until 8:30 PM in early July. You are to be dropped off and picked up there by your family. Please bring your favorite homemade dessert to share.

**St. George Vacation Bible Camp** – Jesus always welcomed the little children. Following his example, this experience is for candidates who are interested in working with young children from our parish (ages 6 to 11 years ) on selected dates and times - July 10 till July 14 - during the hours of 8:00 AM and 1:00 PM. You will join in the fun as we learn more about our faith together.

**Ongoing Community Service or Special Interest Experiences** -These experiences are possibilities if they include all the necessary components described above. We will need the description written up – emailed and agreed upon before the June 11th sign –up date..

Many Blessings,

Mrs. Doyle, Parish Outreach Coordinator (508) 450-4134