

Confirmation 2018 - 2019
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 young children. 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 serves as an **introduction to service** that the candidate will hopefully choose to repeat as a young adult member of our parish community
2. Each experience provides **direct contact** with those in need
3. Each experience is **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.

- **Part I - Summer 2018 – Serve, Reflect , Email**
No later than a week after completing your service experience – Email the first draft of your reflection to annie@saintgeorgesparish.org. We will revise it together through an on line conversation to assure that this composition includes all that is necessary ; Your feeling as you began the experience, the first name of a person you met and the advice about life you received from that person and your feeling as you completed or reflected back on this experience. Lastly, a description of one small way you have decided to continue to “live your faith as a disciple of Jesus” this year. The final draft of your presentation should be completed and accepted well before October 13, in order to proceed with the next phases of the Confirmation Preparation Program.
- **Part II - Fall 2018 - Presentation to Parish** - On the weekend of October 13/14, 2018 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 October 13.
- **Part III – Fall into Winter 2018, Presentation to Peers** – This is a reading of your 3 minute reflection to your peers. Presentations to your peers begin at the first session on October 28, 2018.

Here are brief descriptions of the experiences you will choose from and sign-up for at the first Confirmation meeting June 10, 2018.

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 for Friday July 20th, 3:30 till 6:30 PM. 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. You are to be brought in and picked up 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.

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, June 25 to 30. You are to be brought in 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 16 till July 19 - during the hours of 9AM and 12N. You will join in the fun as we learn more about our faith together.

St. Francis and Therese Catholic Worker - Jesus always welcomed those in need and said, “Blessed are the peacemakers.” The door is always open at this Catholic Worker house of hospitality. The members of this community are dedicated to the works of peace and justice. Candidates will prepare and share the Saturday evening meal for about 10. Service takes place on August 11 from 3:30 till 6:30PM at 52 Mason St., Worcester. Please be brought in and picked up there by your family. Please bring your favorite homemade dessert to share.

Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick - Jesus comforted and healed the sick. As followers of Jesus we reach out to the sick and offer this Sacrament of healing at St. George Church on Monday, August 13th from 10AM till 1PM. This experience is for candidates who will attend this healing service and welcome, assist and serve a light meal to approximately 50 parishioners.

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 10th sign –up date.

I look forward to serving with you, Mrs. Doyle, Parish Outreach Coordinator (508) 450-4134