

How many hours can I count for each experience?

Charitable donations

- If you donate to a collection through our program, you may count one hour of service and your catechist may sign your volunteer form. This time includes shopping for the item and contributing to the collection. Last year we collected over 1,000 diapers for Saint Gerard's Center for Life!

Consistent service

- Those who are consistently active in one area of service such as altar serving, tutoring, scouts, Unified Sports/Theater, Special Olympics, etc. may document this participation for half of their expected hours.
 - **Middle School** students who participate in the activities listed or another continuous service opportunity may count 2.5 hours for each year of participation. Each year, an additional 2.5 hours will be served in other areas to complete the expected five hours.
 - **High School** students who participate in the activities listed above or another continuous service opportunity may count 5 hours for each year of participation. Each year, an additional 5 hours will be served in other areas to complete the expected ten hours.

One-time event

- Four hours is the maximum number of hours that can be counted for one service opportunity as the goal is to contribute to the community in a variety of ways. If a candidate participates in one opportunity in which they serve more than four hours, four hours may be documented.

Is this opportunity considered service?

The Jubilee Year of Mercy began on December 8, 2015, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, as declared by Pope Francis. In response, we have expanded our understanding of service to encompass both the Corporal and the Spiritual works of Mercy. Students are able to choose to share their time through service opportunities that fall under the categories of Faith Formation, Parish Life, and Community Service.

What are the expectations in terms of documentation?

Each service opportunity should be documented with a separate volunteer form. All opportunities will then be recorded on the service log in preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation. Volunteer forms should be stapled to the service log. The forms can be downloaded from the service information page of our parish website.