

SERVICE

3 Experiences during preparation for Confirmation

Why do we serve?

We serve for two main reasons:

1. We serve because as disciples of Christ we strive to live as He lived. He is our model. In the Gospels we come to know of countless times Jesus chose to serve. He served the poor, the sick, the outcast. He served his family, friends and even those who would have been considered his natural “enemy.” He gave us the teachings of the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy as well as the Beatitudes as concrete examples of how to serve. All of this is summarized by his teaching,
“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’”
Mark 12:30-31
2. The second reason we serve is because we believe that every single person is a unique and beautiful creation of God. Each and every person is born with inherent dignity and worth. As Christians we are called to treat ourselves and others with dignity. When that dignity is being threatened our faith calls us to stand up for injustice, to speak for those who cannot speak for themselves, and to provide for those in need. Remember Christ told us,

“Whatever you do to the least of my brothers, you do to me” (Mt 25:40).

We serve at home because service starts at home. That is our first missionary field. There is no need to travel to a remote location in a developing country. God has placed you in a home with people whom he has called you to serve.

We serve at Church because the Church is an extension of our family, it is our faith family. It is through the Church that we receive access to the sacraments, to the Good News of Jesus Christ and to community. All Churches are non-profit organizations that are made up mostly of people like you! The more its members offer their time, gifts, and talents the more vibrant and life-giving the community will be.

We serve in the community because Christ has called us to go out. This call is being re-echoed quite loudly by our current Pope.

What does service have to do with preparation for the sacrament of Confirmation?

At the Confirmation Mass each Confirmation candidate will receive a special strengthening by the Holy Spirit to spread and defend the Catholic faith in word and deed. Service is a way of life for a disciple of Christ. We do not serve because we are told to. We do not serve because it fulfills a requirement. We serve because it is a part of who we are as Christians. Each of us has been given unique gifts and talents to serve within our own families and communities. Participating in service this year will help you come to know the needs of your family, Church, and community. It will also help you know what gifts you can offer in service of others. Our hope is that serving will not be a one-time thing, but a way of life.

Complete 3 Service experiences during your time of preparation for the sacrament of Confirmation. Share pictures, info, and a reflection about those experiences in your Google slides presentation. You do not have to do one in each category.

Family	Church	Community
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Leading your family in any act of prayer is being of service to your family: praying a family rosary, attending Eucharistic adoration together, choosing a family devotional & doing it as a family. If your family does not regularly attend Mass, you can lead and encourage your family to attend Mass regularly. Attend confession together ● Anticipate a need and fulfill it. As children we are used to doing things for our parents when asked. How different would it be to live in a household where each person goes out of their way to serve the needs of the other? To do it without expectation of payment or any reward. To do it out of love for your family and for Christ. ● To give something up you really want so that a family member can have what they want or need. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Serving with a Parish Ministry such as: Knights of Columbus, Mary's Ministry, Good Samaritans, Christian Formation, St Vincent dePaul Society ● Participating in any Youth Ministry sponsored service opportunities, such as the soup kitchen or thrift store ● Assisting at Parish events and fundraisers such as the St Timothy feast day or Bingo. ● Sacrificial giving of your money/Tithing ● Being a Liturgical Minister: altar server, lector, choir member, usher, greeter, Children's Liturgy of the Word catechist, Timmy's Tots teacher 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Volunteer for a non-profit that is working to uphold Catholic social justice principles: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Upholding the dignity of the human person from conception to natural death 2. Caring for God's creation 3. Supporting healthy marriage, family life and community 4. Advocating for the needs of the poor and vulnerable 5. Upholding the rights & responsibilities of all people 6. Access to dignified work and a livable wage 7. Encouraging solidarity that we are all one human family under God ● Participate in a Corporal work of Mercy: Feed the hungry, Clothe the naked, Visit the imprisoned, Bury the dead, Give drink to the thirsty, Shelter the homeless, Visit the sick, Give alms to the poor

Tips for when you Serve:

1. Start with prayer and end with prayer. It can be as simple as “Christ help me to see you in each person that I interact with at this service project” or “Holy Spirit help me to serve your people well today.” Amen
2. When you’re at the service site ask questions of the people running the event so you can learn more about your community and its needs. Questions like: Who are we serving? What does your organization need? Why is this service necessary?
3. Serve with joy! When we serve we are representing Christ and our Church. No one likes a grumpy helper. We have Good News to share. Let’s show it.
4. Remember that you will be sharing about your service experiences with your sponsor, at your interview, and in your Google presentation. Take a pictures (don’t take pictures of clients or other people’s kids that you don’t know).
5. Take time for reflection. Did you feel like you used your gifts and talents to help? Is this something you would want to do it again? How could humanity better serve and meet the need that you encountered in your service experience?

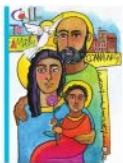
the seven themes of CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING for children



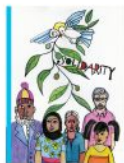
1 God made each person, so every life is important and should be protected.



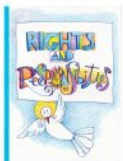
5 Work is important in God’s plan for adults and their families, so jobs and pay should be fair.



2 God made us to be part of communities, families and countries, so all people can share and help each other.



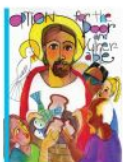
6 God made everyone, so we are all brothers and sisters in God’s family wherever we live.



3 God wants us to help make sure everyone is safe and healthy and can have a good life.



7 The world was made by God, so we take care of all creation.



4 God wants us to help people who are poor, who don’t have enough food, a safe place to live, or a community.



These themes are based on United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Shared Catholic Social Teaching: Challenges and Opportunities
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Photos courtesy of Brother Mickey McGloth, OSFS.

CORPORAL WORKS OF MERCY

1. To feed the hungry (Matthew 25:35)
2. To give drink to the thirsty (Matthew 25:35)
3. To clothe the naked (Matthew 25:36)
4. To shelter the homeless (Matthew 25:36)
5. To visit the sick (Matthew 25:36)
6. To visit the imprisoned (Matthew 25:35)
7. To bury the dead (Matthew 25:40)

SPIRITUAL WORKS OF MERCY

1. To instruct the ignorant (Matthew 16:15)
2. To counsel the doubtful (John 14:27)
3. To admonish sinners (Luke 15:7)
4. To bear wrongs patiently (Luke 6:27-28)
5. To forgive offences willingly (Matthew 6:12)
6. To comfort the sorrowful (Matthew 11:28)
7. To pray for the living and the dead (John 17:24)

All service experience reflections & pictures should be included in your Google presentation which is due May 18, 2020. You will have time to start working on your presentation during January small groups.

Service Events Sponsored by Youth Ministry

Thrift Shop

Saturdays in September & November

Soup Kitchen

Every 4th Friday from 5-7 PM

Building a Handicap Ramp

Saturday, September 28

Fall Festival Fundraiser

Sunday, October 6, 3:30-6:30 PM

Toy Shoppe

Sunday, December 1, Noon-2

Sub Fundraiser

Weekend of February 1-2

Bingo Fundraiser

Saturday, March 14

Teen Living Stations of the Cross

During Lent

Yard Sale Fundraiser

Week of May 11th-17th

To sign up for these, visit

www.stimothys.org/lifeteen

If you participated in the:

Baltimore Work Camp, Vacation Bible
School, Summer Formation or
iServe over the summer, please consider
counting these as 1 experience.

Service Events Sponsored by other St Tim's Organizations

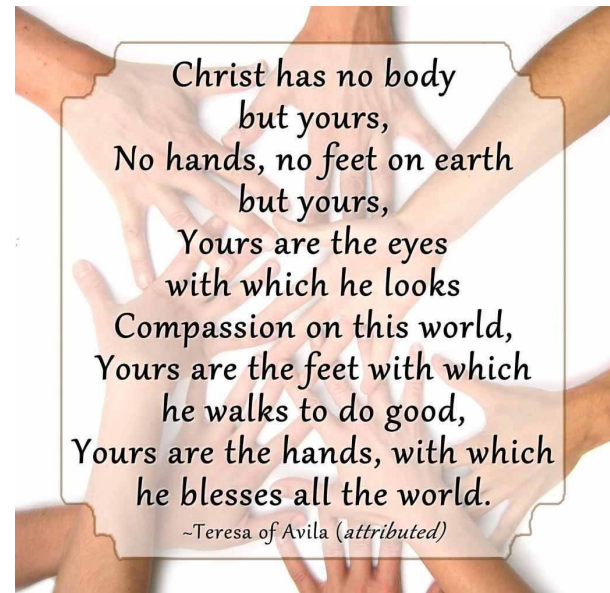
Mowing the lawn & caring for the Church
grounds

St Timothy Feast Day Celebration
Sunday, January 26

Church cleaning days in Advent & Lent

Blood Drives at St Tim's sponsored by the
Knights of Columbus

Easter Egg Hunt
Monday, April 13



www.stimothys.org/confirmation