

Holy Family Parish High School Religious Education

Alternative Service Opportunity *Information and Guidelines*

We receive special requests from students and families regarding our service expectations. Our service opportunities seek to enhance students' faith formation experience, rather than "clock hours". In situations requiring flexibility with our expectations of service, it is the intent of this document to streamline those requests and standardize the process of requesting exemption from one of the program's regularly scheduled service opportunities.

What your service opportunity might look like:

Our service opportunities aim to serve the poor (Oasis or Cor Unum) and the elderly (Dream Team Service Day). Your service opportunity may serve either the poor or elderly, or you may serve other populations. One guideline is to focus on how the service achieves one or more of the corporal or spiritual works of mercy. Another possibility is to focus on liturgical service at Holy Family Parish.

Examples:

Feed the hungry: participate in the Concord CROP Walk

Care for the sick: giving assistance to someone you know who is sick/homebound

Clothe the naked: organize a clothing drive

Share knowledge: assist with religious education for younger kids

Liturgical service: serve at Mass or the children's liturgy of the word

How to Make a Request for Your Own Service Opportunity:

You are expected to make such requests in writing *no later than November 1 each school year*. This is better for accountability to the program and your peers. (It is unfair for some students to make sacrifices to fulfill expectations and others to be given a "free pass".)

Students should use the accompanying form to give information and a description of the service opportunity to be fulfilled. Parents: please do not complete this form for your son/daughter. Your signature will suffice as agreement to oversee the service being done.

The Coordinator of Religious Education will promptly contact you regarding approval of your alternative service work.

Corporal Works of Mercy:

Feed the hungry

Give drink to the thirsty

Shelter the homeless

Clothe the naked

Care for the sick

Help the imprisoned

Bury the dead

Spiritual Works of Mercy:

Share knowledge

Give advice to those who
need it

Comfort those who suffer

Be patient with others

Forgive those who hurt
you

Give correction to those
who need it

Pray for the living and the
dead

The Catholic Faith

Handbook for Youth, pg.
373-374.

**Holy Family Parish
High School Religious Education**

**Alternative Service Opportunity
Request Form**

<i>For Office Use Only:</i> Approved: _____ Contacted: _____
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Last Name: _____

School Grad. Year: _____

First Name: _____

School Attending: _____

Check one:

High School Religious Education

Level 1: _____

Level 2: _____

Scheduled service you aim to be exempt from: _____

Name of Opportunity (organization, etc): _____

Contact name & information: _____

Dates/Time/Length of Service Work: _____

Who is served? (description of people/person) _____

Why is this service opportunity important to you? _____

What do you hope to attain by participating in this service opportunity?

Student Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature