

**“St. Catherine of Alexandria”  
7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grades**

**Confirmation Preparation and  
Serving Others**

A total of 48 service hours are required for Confirmation candidates.

The hours are divided between 7<sup>th</sup> Grade and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade.

**7<sup>th</sup> Grade: 24 HOME HOURS**

These are service hours that are done for the immediate family. They may include such activities as cleaning the home, cutting grass, washing dishes, babysitting siblings, etc.

The emphasis is on HOW the service is performed.

7<sup>th</sup> Grade will focus on HOW TO DO SERVICE.

The practice they will follow is called “Loving Service” and it is based on having the right INTENTION for doing service and paying ATTENTION to what one is doing.

**Guidelines for doing “Loving Service” will be provided at the 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Parent/Child Meeting on Monday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 7:30PM in our church.**

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade: 24 PARISH HOURS**

These are service hours that are performed for people other than our immediate family. Such activities may include helping at nursing homes, shelters, soup kitchens, the park district, or giving aid to senior citizens, the handicapped, and younger children.

The emphasis is on REFLECTING on the service done and recognizing God’s presence in the good things that we do.

8<sup>th</sup> Grade candidates are required to write a reflection on each of three different service activities which they performed.

These reflections should be narratives that tell (1) what was done and who was present (2) what was the candidate’s intention (to serve God), (3) how did the candidate attend (give attention), (4) what fruit of the spirit was present (as a sign of God’s presence), (5) and if their sponsor was present, how did she or he help, etc. The opposite side of this page contains resource material for answering the above.

SPONSORS should be involved as much as possible beginning with the Parent/Candidate and Sponsors meeting on Monday, September 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:30PM in our Church.

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**7<sup>th</sup> Grade: 24 Home Hours  
due April 23, 2012**

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade 24 Parish Hours  
due January 23, 2012**

**Total: 48 Service Hours**

Here are the guidelines for choosing a SPONSOR:

**Sponsors need to be practicing Roman Catholics who have already been Confirmed and can provide a copy of the Certificate of Confirmation upon request. Their role is to lead the Candidate into a deeper, more committed faith. They should be able to talk freely of their own faith and share in the Candidate’s preparation, e.g. service projects. A candidate’s Godparent can also be their Confirmation Sponsor. A Sponsor should not be a parent of the Candidate. Though Canon Law allows Sponsors to be as young as 16 years old, remember that they should be able to take on an adult role when needed, such as can be the case for certain service projects as mentioned above. **INVITE YOUR SPONSOR to attend meetings with you and to help with service projects.****

For more information, contact:

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