



Community Service Verification

Student Name: _____ Grade: _____ School year: _____

To promote goodwill with those around us, and to help students learn the value and pleasure of serving God by serving others, St. Mary's School requires all students in grades six through eight to provide service to our community outside of school hours. "Community service" is defined as "any activity benefiting an organization or individual in need of such activity and leading to an improvement of the quality of life". Community service does *not* include work done on behalf of a family member or family business, tasks for which a student receives payment, or activities (such as altar serving) the student already regularly performs.

The amount of service required by each student each school year is listed below. Students providing more service may become eligible for special awards during the year, including the American Citizenship award.

- Grade 6: 15 hours by 1 April, with at least 7.5 hours completed by 15 January.
(American Citizenship Award eligibility: 25 hours by 1 April)
- Grades 7 & 8: 20 hours by 1 April, with at least 10 hours completed by 15 January.
(American Citizenship Award eligibility: 35 hours 1 April)

Failure to meet the deadlines (including the half-way mark in January) will result in suspension from field trips, Spirit Days, extra-curricular activities, and similar events; completion of the outstanding hours will lift the suspension. Failure to fulfill the service requirements by the end of the academic year will result in the school's withholding grades, transcripts, and other records; completion of the outstanding hours will free those documents.

Examples of community service activities:

Visiting a nursing home; completing an arts-and-crafts project for the school or community; participating in a clean-up campaign; performing housework or errands for ill or elderly persons; baby-sitting (up to five hours, total) for someone (not a relative) unable to provide compensation; providing credible, needed assistance (approved by the school office) for an established community organization or institution. Note that a variety of service is expected, with a student performing at least three diverse types of activities or projects during the year.

Students are encouraged to perform as many hours as possible during the fall, as opportunities for service in the spring tend to be few.

Community Service Record

Date	Times	Hours	Description of Activity	Verified by	Approved by

All community service must be documented and is subject to approval by the principal.