

Missionary Initiative

Read Thoroughly and Return by Dec. 6, 2020



Old St. Mary's has a rich tradition of service. Service is giving to others and wanting to make a difference in the lives of others. Missionary Initiatives or Service projects are a part of Confirmation preparation.

Missionary Initiative or service projects are a way of practicing what it means to intentionally live as a believer; to see the world, hear the world, and live within the world with the eyes, ears, hands, and heart of Christ; especially for the poor, sick and most vulnerable in our society. Service or missionary spirit reminds and teaches all Christians that service is an expression of love and is performed by Christians towards building up the Kingdom of God on earth.

In preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation, service is to be done within a certain framework. We ask candidates to complete at least one service project in the context of family, one in the context of parish, and one in the context of the wider community. The projects that candidates undertake are to be independent of requirements he/she might participate in or perform within their school or extracurricular activities. Candidates undertake the projects as means to do good, to learn, and to seek to know and encounter Christ in the work or people impacted by the contribution that the candidate makes through his/her project.

GIVEN THE PANDEMIC, YOUNG PEOPLE ARE ASKED TO NOT SEEK OUT IN-PERSON SERVICE IN THE COMMUNITY BUT RATHER ARE ENCOURAGED TO CREATIVELY PARTICIPATE IN AN INITIATIVE FROM HOME. SEE IDEAS BELOW.

Candidates are asked to approach the project with consideration and to reflect after each project. Start by reading the reflection sheet BEFORE you undertake a project as doing so will help you identify the type of projects you are looking to complete. Finally, complete the written reflection soon after completing the project.

Service is seen as a way of life, not "something to get over and done with." Therefore, we do not require a specific number of hours. However, we encourage candidates to complete 6-8 hours between at least 3 projects in the specified areas. Certainly, candidates can exceed the project scope and hours and we hope that they do.

How To Complete Your Missionary Initiative?

1. Read the Missionary Initiative description above AND this complete packet before beginning.
2. Complete the reverse side of this page; the Missionary Log of your experiences.
3. Complete a Missionary Reflection for each project. You can use the form or type it and email it to mharrington@oldstmarys.com
4. Turn in your Missionary Reflections and log by Dec. 6, 2020.

Where can I find service or missionary opportunities during a pandemic?

1. Send a batch of cards to a nursing home(s) and parish shut-ins requesting that they be distributed to those who do not get visitors. Involve your whole family in the effort! Contact Mrs. Harrington to learn more.
2. Mentor a peer who is preparing to be received into our faith for the first time. Contact Mrs. Harrington.
3. Become a lector/reader at Mass, become an usher or greeter to help check people in and seat people at Mass on Saturday/Sunday's. Contact Mrs. Tracy to learn more at amee.markelztracy@bunn.com.

Missionary Initiative Log

Remember you must complete a project in the context of family, parish, and community. Please have the adult supervisor sign your log as you complete the projects.

I acknowledge that _____ has served as part of:
Name of place where service performed: _____
Location: _____
Adult Supervisor Signature: _____
Adult Supervisor Name, printed: _____
Type of Service _____ Date of Service: _____

I acknowledge that _____ has served as part of:
Name of place where service performed: _____
Location: _____
Adult Supervisor Signature: _____
Adult Supervisor Name, printed: _____
Type of Service _____ Date of Service: _____

I acknowledge that _____ has served as part of:
Name of place where service performed: _____
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