

Candidate Service Hours & Preparation for Interview

Welcome! Again, we are so glad that you have decided to be part of this year's Confirmation program! As part of this year's program, you will be expected to complete 10 hours of service and complete the journal questions in your *Decision Point* Confirmation book. More information on this can be found below. However, if at any time you should have questions about your service hours or the journal questions, please call The Office of Youth Ministry at 410-833-7639 or contact by e-mail at youthministry@shgparish.org.

Service Hour Participation

Each Candidate is being asked to complete 10 hours of direct community service. This service is in the spirit of our Church's Catholic Social Teaching, and should be direct service to those in need along the lines of the Corporeal Works of Mercy, which would include, but is not necessarily limited to:

- feed the hungry
- give drink to the thirsty
- clothe the naked
- house the homeless
- visit the sick
- visit the captive

We ask each of our candidates to seek out a service opportunity that is meaningful to them, and which is not merely an attempt to "check off" or "get their hours done". Our hope is that in this direct service, you will be encouraged to see the face of Christ in those you serve. To document your service hours, please complete one "Service Hour Documentation and Reflection" form for each of your service activities. **These are due on or before December 10th & April 8th – 5 hours should be turned in to the Office of Youth Ministry on each date.**

Journal Entries and Preparation for Your Confirmation Interview

This year, the "Project" is being replaced with the completion of the Journal Questions located at the end of each Session in your *Decision Point* Confirmation book. This will be a great way to set aside a bit of your time and focus to reflect upon how your faith journey is developing, where you currently are encountering Christ, and how you are engaging in your faith outside of Confirmation classes.

<u>Session/Chapter</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Class Date</u>	<u>Journal Questions</u>
Session 1	Life is Choices	Prior to 10/1/17	p. 25
Session 2	What's Holding you Back?	Prior to 10/1/17	p. 52
Session 3	The Jesus Question	10/1/17	p. 81
Session 4	The Prayer Process	10/1/17	p. 105

<u>Session/Chapter</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Class Date</u>	<u>Journal Questions</u>
Session 5	The Bible	11/5/17	p. 137
Session 6	Relationships	1/21/18	p. 163
Session 7	The Eucharist	12/10/17	p. 185
Session 8	The Holy Spirit	RETREAT	p. 211
Session 9	The Church	2/4/18	p. 239
Session 10	Confirmation	2/4/18	p. 266
Session 11	Made for Mission	3/4/18	p. 293
Session 12	Holiness is Possible	4/8/18	p. 322

Your *Decision Point* books will be turned during your last class (4/8/18) and returned to you at the time of your Confirmation Interview (date and time to be determined).

Again, as you complete your Journal Questions, set aside some time and reflect on each of the following four (4) areas of focus during your Confirmation journey and prior to your Interview (date and time to be determined)

- ***Prayer:*** How do you pray? What are your challenges regarding prayer? What are the prayers that offer you comfort?
- ***Sacramental Celebrations:*** Which sacramental celebrations have you attended this year – a baptism, a wedding, an ordination, reconciliation? Is there a Liturgy (Mass) that you went to that had a special meaning? What about our weekly celebration of the Eucharist?
- ***Your Sponsor’s Faith Journey:*** Interview them. Ask them about their faith experience while growing up. When did they take “ownership” of their faith? What are their struggles and what are the things that give them strength about their faith?
- ***Your Experience of God’s presence:*** Has there been a time when you felt God’s presence? An experience where you knew that God was with you? A time of prayer, discernment, or challenge in which you encountered the love of God?

Remember, your Journal Questions and preparation for your Interview should be done throughout the course of the program (not during the last two weeks).

Please make plans to meet with your sponsor approximately once a month throughout your Confirmation year.