



# ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST

BE DISCIPLES. MAKE DISCIPLES.

Dear Parents and Guardians of Middle School Students,

God has called each of us to use our hearts and hands to serve him within our local community and beyond. To help instill this characteristic in our St. John students, we ask that middle school students (grades 6, 7, & 8 enrolled at SJE School, Religious Education, or Homeschool) engage in service projects that will challenge them to put their unique gifts and talents to the service of God, others, and the poor. Service is one of the primary ways God works in us and through us. Parents, you are always welcome to chaperone, and we hope you will consider serving alongside your child.

## **MIDDLE SCHOOL SERVICE HOURS POLICY**

All middle school students (grades 6 through 8) are required to complete a specific number of outreach and volunteer hours depending on grade level.

**Definition of “Outreach” is service provided by “serving the less fortunate outside of the community” (i.e. Food bank, soup kitchen, foster home, food pantry, etc.)**

**Definition of “Volunteer” is service provided by “serving within the community, school, or parish” (i.e. parish events, school events, community initiatives)**

- **6th grade students: 6 outreach hours (of which up to 3 hours may include service to one's neighbors or relatives) and 1 volunteer hour.**
- **7th grade students: 6 outreach hours (of which up to 3 hours may include service to one's neighbors or relatives) and 2 volunteer hours.**
- **8th grade students: 15 outreach hours (of which up to 3 hours may include service to one's neighbors or relatives) and 3 volunteer hours.**

All students must complete their service requirements by **May 31st** each year. Students will not be allowed to carry over any service project or hours from one year to the next.

**\*Examples of service that does not count towards hours** is being involved with clubs at school, or any service done at home such as babysitting one's siblings or chores.

**Sign Up Genius available for those who would like to participate in group projects.**

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0D4BADA82DA5F85-sjemiddle>

**Due to the high volume of students that are interested in participating in the SJE coordinated service projects, any student that is signed up must show up. If a student does not show 2 times they will no longer be eligible to participate in the SJE middle school service projects. Students that are not previously signed up and show up for the project will be turned away. The sign up is the capacity for each of the projects.**



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## **Suggestions for Service Projects**

- Epiphany bag project (Volunteer)
- Sacrament formation retreats (Volunteer)
- Totus Tuus (Volunteer)
- SJE Fest (Volunteer)
- Oktoberfest (Volunteer)
- Thanksgiving meal deliveries (Outreach)
- Lunch bag project (Outreach or Volunteer)
- Helping onsite at a local Food pantry (Outreach)
- Volunteer to collect Angel Tree gifts after Mass (Volunteer)
- Set-up Christmas decoration at Church (Volunteer)
- Prepare Easter Candles (Volunteer)
- Food delivery to senior parishioner or homebound (Outreach)
- Participate in Mobile Market pantry in your neighborhood (Outreach)
- Check with the Food Bank for service opportunities. (Outreach) [foodbanknwi.org](http://foodbanknwi.org)  
If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Sarah Barnard, [volunteers@foodbanknwi.org](mailto:volunteers@foodbanknwi.org), 219-980-1777 x316.
- Phil's Friends (Outreach) Walk-ins on Monday evenings 5-6:30pm  
(224)653-8315
- Praying for the end of abortion at Planned Parenthood (Outreach)
- Serving at Pro Labore Dei mission on Saturdays from 9am-12pm  
Contact Ann DeAngulas (708)502-8424  
Three locations: Posen, IL, Ashburn neighborhood in Chicago, Robbins, IL (Outreach)
- Serve at the Community Meal in East Chicago First Saturday of each month 11am-2pm  
(Outreach)

We want to encourage students to take their own initiative to be “on the lookout” for various ways to serve others. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Religious education office @ 219-806-0583

Thank you for partnering with us to serve.

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