

## CONFIRMATION SERVICE PROJECTS 2019-20

We are taught through the example and preaching of Jesus that as Christians we are to recognize the needs of others. Service is an essential element of our Christian faith and an important part of our religion program this year. Please read the information below and decide where you would like to volunteer.

**Please contact Michael Ruzala in the Parish Offices at 835-8905 x 12 by October 22<sup>nd</sup> to let us know which service project(s) you will do/ or have done already this summer.**

Since the number of people needed for some of these service projects is limited, they will be filled on a first come, first to serve basis. When you assist with the event(s) you signed up for, be sure to have your green service project form signed by the adult in charge of the activity.

All Confirmation service projects need to take place in a Catholic setting. Any service projects other than those listed below need to be approved before hand, in order to be certain that they meet the requirements of the Confirmation program.

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**Each student is required to participate in ONE Long Term Project at St. Leo the Great Parish or to complete a total of TWENTY HOURS on shorter term projects that take place in Catholic settings. Please note that these are the minimum requirements, you are certainly welcome to do more than is required.**

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### **PARISH ACTIVITIES WHICH ARE LONG TERM PROJECTS**

If you choose one of these projects, which has a lengthier time commitment, you only need to do one. By signing up for one of these, you are committing to take part in it for the entire school year or when the program finishes for the year. **To sign up for any of these long term projects call 835-8905 x 12.**

1. **Assisting with the Religious Education Program:** Helping as a teacher's aide in the religious education program. The commitment is approximately 2 times a month.  
Days: Saturdays from 8:50 AM —11 AM
2. **Singing at the 9:30 AM Mass or with the 11 AM Choir or 4:30 PM Mass Contemporary Music Group:**  
The Choir sings at the 11:00 AM Mass and practices on Thursday nights.  
The Saturday 4:30 PM Mass Contemporary Music Group practices on Thursday nights.  
Information about singing at the 9:30 AM Mass and practice times will be given out to those who are interested.
3. **Maintaining the Clothing Bin:** Taking care of the clothing bin at St. Leo's one day a week from October through March. This usually takes about 15-20 minutes a day.
4. **Ushering:** Ushering at a Mass each weekend from October through March. We understand that you may be away some weekends, but this commitment would mean being there to usher the majority of weekends during these months. You would be able to choose which Mass time that you would like to usher—  
Saturday at 4:30 PM or Sunday at 8, 9:30 or 11 AM.

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## SHORT TERM SERVICE PROJECTS

For those events which are not at St. Leo's, students will be required to make their own transportation arrangements, unless indicated otherwise.

1. **Religious Education Special Events:** Assisting with set up, activities and clean up for family faith. Please see the special events flyer for additional details. Call Michael Ruzala at 835-8905 x 12 to volunteer.
2. **St Luke's Mission of Mercy:** 325 Walden Avenue near Miller Street. Preparing food baskets for distribution to the poor at Thanksgiving time. Your own transportation is needed and parents are invited to stay with their children to assist with this project. Thousands of bags of food are assembled for those in need.
3. **Christmas Giving Tree Project:** Preparing the tree and sorting gifts to be distributed to needy families. Date(s): TBA- From the middle of November to the beginning of December. Call Michael Ruzala at 835-8905 x 14 to volunteer
4. **Helping with St. Leo's St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry:** Assisting with preparing and carrying bags of food for those who come to the food pantry on our pick-up day. Date(s): TBA, but generally the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month  
Times: Late morning/ early afternoon  
Call Michael Ruzala at 835-8905 x 12 to volunteer
5. **Decorating our church for Christmas and/ or Easter:** Helping with holiday decorating in the church. Dates: TBA—Look in the bulletin for information as the dates approach. Generally Christmas decorating is done the weekend before Christmas and Easter decorating is done Good Friday evening. Call Mr. Pat Adams at 876-5306 to volunteer.
6. **St. Vincent de Paul Dining Room:** 1298 Main St.—Helping to prepare and serve dinner to those in need or sorting clothes for the poor in the warehouse behind the dining room. Date: Done on an individual basis—call 882-3360 to make arrangements to volunteer  
Times: Saturdays from 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM or on certain weekdays. You may do this as many times as you like to earn service hours.

Additionally, you may earn service hours by going to help at St. Luke's Mission of Mercy on other dates. Please call them before hand to let them know that you are coming, and have some one there sign your service project form with the date(s) and time(s) that you worked. St. Luke's # 894-4476

**You may also contact a Catholic nursing home, hospital or other Catholic institution and volunteer there.**

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If there is some Church-related service project other than those listed above which you would like to take part in to fulfill your service requirement, please email [mruszala@stleothegreatamherst.com](mailto:mruszala@stleothegreatamherst.com) or call 835-8905 x 12 to let us know what you would like to do and to make certain that it fulfills the objectives of the service requirement.

If you sign up for a service project where the date was to be announced, you will be contacted with additional information as the time of the event approaches.