



Confirmation Works of Mercy

(for service at and outside of parish)

Candidate Name _____

For a follower of Jesus, service to others is not an option...it is a part of the deal. For a follower of Jesus, the question is not, "Should I do some service?" The question is, "What service am I going to do?" In the Gospel of John, at the end of the Passover meal, Jesus pours water into a basin, wraps a towel around his waist and begins to wash the feet of His disciples. After completing this action, He says, "*Do you understand what I have done for you? You call me 'Teacher' and rightly, for so I am. If then, I, your Teacher, have washed your feet, you should wash each other's feet. I have given you an example that you should do as I have done to you.*" (John 13:12-15)

WORKS OF MERCY are inspired by Christ's example and precept that we are to do to others as we would have them do to us.

The corporal works of mercy: feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, visit the imprisoned, shelter the homeless, visit the sick, and bury the dead. Six of these come from Jesus' teaching in Matthew 25: "What you do for the least of these, you do for me." The last comes from traditional Hebrew respect for the body.

The spiritual works of mercy: admonish the sinner, instruct the ignorant, counsel the doubtful, comfort the sorrowful, bear wrongs patiently, forgive all injuries, and pray for the living and the dead. These teachings from the New Testament and 2 Maccabees compiled later than the first to address "spiritual" acts we owe each other as opposed to "temporal" (worldly) needs.

Requirements

1. **Each candidate must complete (at least):**
 - **1 service activity (continuous or repeated smaller events) in excess of 10 hours.**
(*Examples:* Catechist Aide, Vacation Bible Camp, Mission Trip, UServe, repeated Oasis Volunteer)
- OR**
- **2 service activities (continuous or repeated smaller events) in excess of 5 hours each.**
(*Examples:* Bridges Prep & Run; St. Martin's Soup Kitchen, Advent Giving Tree, Christian Health Care Center)
2. Service must be completed between Confirmation Orientation and Works of Mercy due date (listed below).
3. Works of Mercy must be a service performed for people in need; a Corporal or Spiritual Work of Mercy.
4. **Approved Works of Mercy** are located on a form in your Confirmation folder. Additional opportunities will be emailed to you as they arise.
5. There must be a signature from each completed activity.
6. Candidate must complete a Works of Mercy Reflection essay answering specific questions about the Work(s) of Mercy they performed and what they learned.
7. Return this completed form with your Reflection Essay attached **by Monday, March 19, 2018 (1 form per candidate).**
8. **Return to:** St. Elizabeth Office of Faith Formation
700 Wyckoff Ave., Wyckoff, NJ 07481

Name of Place (Approved list or approved by office)	Date(s)	# of Hours	Brief Explanation of Service	Supervisor Signature