

We are Called to Serve

Jesus came “not to be served, but to serve.” (Mt. 20:28). The Church is a servant community and all those accepting full membership in the Church are also accepting the responsibility to serve.

At St Francis Xavier we pledge that - we pray, we learn, we serve. As part of that pledge, this year your child will be required to complete *at least 15 hours of service*. The *first five* hours will be due at the end of the first trimester with each additional 5 at the end of the 2nd and 3rd trimester. Your child may complete more than 15 hours, but a Religion grade will be posted each trimester for the required 5 hours of service. (In other words, if all 5 hours are completed by the due date, your child will have a 5/5 recorded as one grade for religion for three different trimesters.) Your child may complete their hours any time in the trimester and turn them into their Religion teacher. We encourage your child to try to do more than is required and ask that they continue to hand in the forms documenting their service hours. This way we can calculate how much service the SFX students are doing. We think we will be pleasantly surprised with our findings.

We require that students participate in **at least one hour** of **parish or school** service per trimester (altar serving*, BEDS, Food Pantry, school events, etc) and **at least one hour** of **community** service per trimester (The Caring Place, Helping Hand, Feed our Future, etc). Students will be limited to **one hour** per trimester for **family** service (**unpaid chores or babysitting**). Opportunities for service activities continually present themselves and will be shared with you when possible. A Volunteer Spot link is now available that contains parish, school and community opportunities. Each student may pick **two opportunities for the FIRST trimester from the volunteer sign up**. After this link is available for one week and everyone has had an opportunity to sign up for two hours, we will re-open sign ups and allow everyone to sign up for more than two hours during **FIRST TRIMESTER ONLY**. There are less opportunities available on the volunteer spot in the second and third trimesters, therefore **students will be limited to ONE HOUR second trimester AND third trimester from the signup**. It is our hope that this experience will be a positive one and will encourage our students to begin leading their life of service.

7th and 8th Grade Religion Team & Middle School Service Coordinators

**altar serving will be limited to TWO HOURS per trimester*

