**Confirmation Preparation at St. Junipero Serra**

**Community Service Component**

Along with *forming a deeper interior faith*, youth ministry in the Archdiocese of Hartford has the major goals of *integrating young Catholics into the ongoing life of the parish* and *guiding young Catholics toward actively following Jesus Christ*. The Confirmation Classes aim at the first goal, while the Community Service Component aims at the second and third.

St. Junipero Serra Confirmation Candidates are required to volunteer for 15 hours of community service during each of the two years of the preparation program.

1. At least **5 hours** service in the *Life of the Parish* – Donut Sunday, Bingo, bulletins, Altar Server, Choir, Lector, Greeter, Usher, replace hymnals in pews, decorate Church for holiday or wedding, serve at parish function, etc.
2. At least **5 hours** service in the *Corporal Works of Mercy* – Actively assist those suffering, outside Church walls
   1. Feed the hungry/give drink to the thirsy – St. Vincent de Paul or other food drives.
   2. Shelter the homeless – go on parish trip to one of the homeless shelters, Habitat for Humanity.
   3. Clothe the naked – Assist a winter clothing drive.
   4. Visit the sick – helping seniors, spend time with someone homebound or in hospital.
   5. Bury the dead – pray for a deceased person at their grave.
   6. Visit the prisoners – probably wait until you’re older for this one.
3. You can fill in the remainder with *General Community Service* – Helping neighbor with yardwork/shoveling, Interact club, tutoring, teacher’s aide, reading to young children at library, etc.

Any service already completed before the start of the program within the last year (since Fall of 2018) can count toward first-year hours.

Helping with the Summer 2020 Vacation Bible School generally takes more than 10 hours. These can be applied to either the first year, second year, or split between both, in either *Life of the Parish* or *General Community Service* categories.