



## Service Requirements for Graduation

In keeping with the Catholic, Dominican mission of St. Catherine's all students are required to complete service work outside of school hours. Service is at the core of what the Racine Dominicans represent to this community, and is instilled in the school through the four pillars. For all students service hours are a general graduation requirement, and successful completion will be indicated by an S or U on transcript.

Requirements are detailed below and reflect the needs and limitations of each grade level. Theology teachers will advise students and answer questions that individual students may have. Campus ministry will publicize opportunities as they become available but students are responsible for seeking their own service opportunities. If a student is unsure if the service they have chosen will count they should check with their Theology teacher before completing the hours; teachers will see administration should any further review be needed. Service done during Week with a Purpose is separate from the graduation requirement. Service requirements for NHS are also separate from graduation requirements. Up to half of a student's requirement can be completed over the summer prior to the year of requirement.

### **Grade 6-8 Students:**

6<sup>th</sup> grade students are required to complete 8 hours of service per school year.

7<sup>th</sup> grade students are required to complete 10 hours of service per school year.

A timesheet verifying service hours and reflection is required for 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade students. These will be assigned and monitored by their Religious Studies teacher.

8<sup>th</sup> grade students are required to complete 12 hours of service per year. A timesheet verifying service hours will be required, as well as a one page reflection paper of their service experience throughout middle school. These items will be assigned and monitored by their Religious Studies teacher.

Note: 8<sup>th</sup> grade students who wish to participate in the HALO service recognition program will need to complete an additional 12 hours of service and construct a creative display showcasing their service experience. 8<sup>th</sup> graders who complete this extra requirement will receive a HALO pin and special recognition at the 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduation ceremony.

Please know that more types of service will be allowed for our middle school students to account for limited transportation abilities at these grade levels – helping an elderly neighbor or family member, parish work, participating in the Soles for Catholic Education Walk, etc.

**Grade 9-12 Students:**

Freshmen and Sophomore students are required to complete 8 hours of service per semester.

A time sheet verifying service hours and reflection paper will be required – documentation will be monitored by the student’s Theology teacher during the assigned semester. For these students, more types of service will be allowed to account for limited transportation abilities at this level – helping an elderly neighbor or family member, parish work, Black and White Ball etc. Additionally, freshman and sophomores may complete up to half of the year’s requirement over summer prior to the start of the school year.

Juniors are required to complete 10 hours of service per semester (if the student has both Theology classes in a single semester the service requirement is still per semester). A time sheet and reflection paper will be required – documentation will be monitored by the student’s Theology teacher during the assigned semester.

Seniors are required to complete 12 hours of service per semester (if the student has both Theology classes in a single semester the service requirement is still per semester). A time sheet and reflection paper will be required – documentation will be monitored by the student’s Theology teacher during the assigned semester.

Because we believe that juniors and seniors should be developmentally ready to challenge themselves further in terms of more expansive community outreach, there are limits on the types of service allowed to focus on service outside of St. Catherine’s and parish community. Parish service can only count for half of the service requirement. ***And revised as of October 20, 2014: juniors and seniors may count up to four hours of service per semester within the school community towards the overall requirement. As such, juniors need 12 hours of outside service and seniors need 16 hours of outside service for the year. We hope this adjustment serves to encourage ample upperclassmen involvement in school related service activities.***

Students who are seeking Confirmation or Eagle Scout status may count those service hours.

Seniors will be expected to complete a summative portfolio/project of their overall St. Catherine’s service experience.