



St. Francis Borgia Catholic Church



Got to go out and
Serve somebody!

Service Program Explanation

**“...and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem,
in all Judea and Samaria and to the ends of the earth.”** Acts 1:8

These words from the Acts of the Apostles are Jesus’ parting words to His disciples. He commissions them, and us, to make Him known with three directives. Since Jesus has been our model for service to others, we will use His words as our guide to integrate this spirit of service into our lives.

Jerusalem was their closest community, their home. For us, our Christian community is our *parish*, St. Francis Borgia. **Judea-Samaria** was their part of the world. For us, this means our *local community* of Ozaukee County. The **ends of the earth** means everything else! For us, that could mean almost anywhere-Milwaukee or our sister parish in Uganda; we call it our *worldwide community*.

The parish service program requires you to follow Jesus’ command to go out and make Him known through your acts of service for others. All parish youth who will participate in the parish preparation program to receive the sacrament of Confirmation must complete this service requirement. Here is what you need to do:

- Complete about 36 hours of service by offering about 12 hours of service in each of the three communities as commissioned by Christ: Parish, Local, Worldwide.
- Keep track of your service starting in 6th grade and finish by the end of 10th grade.
- Use the service hour record form/reflection sheet to keep track of your service and to write a brief summary of your experiences.
- You **MUST** turn in your completed service hour record form and reflection by the end of 10th grade. You do not need to turn in a form each year. Turn in this one form when you have completed your total hours of service.

Here are some suggestions on how you can offer your service within the three communities:

Service in the **Parish Community** can be offered during Mass or can assist the mission of a parish committee or organization. Examples: Adult, Youth or Bell Choir, Instrumentalist, Mass Greeter, Usher, Lector or Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist, Assistant for Liturgy of the Word for Children or Christian Formation Program, House of Peace, St. Vincent de Paul, Festival, Bingo, Fish Fry, Tablesetters, Youth Group Leadership Team, Vacation Bible School

Service in the **Local Community** should benefit organizations within Ozaukee County. A preferential focus on the needs of those who are poor, elderly, sick or disadvantaged should be considered. Examples: Nursing home activity assistance, Family Sharing, St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Shoppe, Ozaukee Washington Land Trust, Portal Industries, Safety Town, elementary school programs, public library events, Interfaith Caregivers

Service in the **Worldwide Community** will require you to really reach out. Suggestions include outreach to inner city areas such as in Milwaukee, participation in national awareness events such as run/walk/bike or bowl-a-thons or meeting the needs of our brothers and sisters in third world countries. Emphasis should focus on improving social justice awareness. Examples: St. Ben’s Community Meal, summer mission trips, Reach Out Reach In, Special Olympics, SFB Ugandan Outreach or Twinning Committee, Repairers of the Breach, House of Peace food or toy drive, SFB Inner City Ministries, Souper Bowl of Caring, Catholic Relief Services or Campaign for Human Development, Feed My Starving Children



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For more information regarding service opportunities within the parish community, please pick up an SFB Parish Services Directory from the parish office. For more information regarding service opportunities in the local or global communities, please contact the service organization directly or visit www.volunteermatch.org.

As opportunities are made known, the Youth Ministry Office will post them in the parish bulletin and/or send email notifications. Sign-up sheets for parish service events will no longer be provided. Youth are expected to keep track of events and obtain signatures on their own. Volunteer activities that are part of Catholic High School programs or curriculum will be accepted by the SFB Parish Service Program and should be noted on the service hour record form. Youth are never to be paid for their service and should focus on a spirit of self-less giving. "Christian service is about recognizing the image of God in others through our service. It is about allowing our service to open our eyes to God himself and fall more deeply in love with God." (Rebuilt, 2013, p. 221)

The Service Hour Record Form is available on the parish website, www.saintfrancisborgia.org or can be found in the racks in the church gathering area or hall. When completed, return to:

**St. Francis Borgia
Catholic Church
1375 Covered Bridge Road
Cedarburg, WI 53012
Phone: 262-377-1070**

Director of Youth Ministry
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