



# ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST

BE DISCIPLES. MAKE DISCIPLES.

Dear Parents and Guardians of Middle School Students,

God has called each of us to use our hearts and hands to serve him within our local community and beyond. To help instill this characteristic in our St. John students, we ask that middle school students (grades 6, 7, & 8 enrolled at SJE School, Religious Education, or Homeschool) engage in service projects that will challenge them to put their unique gifts and talents to the service of God, others, and the poor. Service is one of the primary ways God works in us and through us.

Parents, you are always welcome to chaperone, and we hope you will consider serving alongside your child.

## **MIDDLE SCHOOL SERVICE HOURS POLICY**

All middle school students (grades 6 through 8) are required to complete a specific number of outreach and volunteer hours depending on grade level.

**Definition of “Outreach” is service provided by “serving the less fortunate outside of the community” (i.e. Food bank, soup kitchen, foster home, food pantry, etc.)**

**Definition of “Volunteer” is service provided by “serving within the community, school, or parish” (i.e. parish events, school events, community initiatives)**

- **6th grade students: 6 outreach hours (of which up to 3 hours may include service to one's neighbors or relatives) and 1 volunteer hour.**
- **7th grade students: 6 outreach hours (of which up to 3 hours may include service to one's neighbors or relatives) and 2 volunteer hours.**
- **8th grade students: 15 outreach hours (of which up to 3 hours may include service to one's neighbors or relatives) and 3 volunteer hours.**

All students must complete their service requirements by **May 31st** each year. Students will not be allowed to carry over any service project or hours from one year to the next. A list of opportunities available under both outreach and volunteer services will be provided by the Religious Education office with the assistance of the Director of Service and Outreach. Service projects do not have to be associated with SJE Parish but prior approval is required.

## **NON-PARISHIONER REQUIREMENTS**

Non-parishioner requirements for school/RE families:

1. Any child enrolled in SJE School or RE program **IS REQUIRED** to fulfill the service hours affiliated with the program. Along with education, the service component functions as an integral part of the child's formation.
2. Non-parishioner school parents **ARE REQUIRED** to fulfill any and all service hours associated with the program.



# ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST

BE DISCIPLES. MAKE DISCIPLES.

Sign Up Genius available for those who would like to participate in group projects.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b044caf22a0fb6-school>

## **Suggestions for Service Projects**

- Epiphany bag project (Volunteer)
- SJE Fest (Volunteer)
- Oktoberfest (Volunteer)
- Thanksgiving meal deliveries (Outreach)
- Lunch bag project (Outreach or Volunteer)
- Helping onsite at a local Food pantry (Outreach)
- Volunteer to collect Angel Tree gifts after Mass (Volunteer)
- Set-up Christmas decoration at Church (Volunteer)
- Food delivery to senior parishioner or homebound (Outreach)
- Participate in Mobile Market pantry in your neighborhood (Outreach)
- Check with a local St. Vincent de Paul to organize, clean pantry (Outreach)
- Check with the Food Bank for service opportunities. (Outreach) [foodbanknwi.org](http://foodbanknwi.org)  
If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Sarah Barnard,  
[volunteers@foodbanknwi.org](mailto:volunteers@foodbanknwi.org), 219-980-1777 x316.
- Phil's Friends (Outreach)
- Praying for the end of abortion at Planned Parenthood (Outreach)
- Serving at Pro Labore Dei mission on Saturdays from 9am-12pm  
14414 S. McKinley Ave. Posen, IL (Outreach)

We want to encourage students to take their own initiative to be “on the lookout” for various ways to serve others. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Religious education office @ 219-365-5678

If you have any questions or concerns, we are available to serve your family’s needs. Thank you for partnering with us to serve.

Blessings,

**Director of Religious Education**  
**Amy Goggin**  
[agoggin@stjohnparish.org](mailto:agoggin@stjohnparish.org)

**Assistant to the Director**  
**Lynda Hemmerling**  
[lhemmerling@stjohnparish.org](mailto:lhemmerling@stjohnparish.org)