



VERMILION CATHOLIC
a legacy of Mount Carmel

Apostolic Service Requirements for 2024-2025

FOR STUDENTS IN GRADES 6th-12th

The gospel mandate to serve is a central tenet of the Catholic faith. All students in grades 6 through 12 will have to complete a number of annual Service Hours appropriate to their grade levels. These requirements, along with the submission guidelines, will be included in each Religion teacher's classroom management plans and discussed in class.

These Apostolic Service Hours should be both meaningful and effective in teaching our students their Christian responsibility to serve others as Christ has served us. While we encourage our students to serve their families with generosity such as moving, lawn care, babysitting, etc., it is necessary that your official service opportunities be community-minded and not family obligations.

Requirements for Apostolic Service Hours:

For middle school students, these hours will be completed within the context of a school day on campus. At this grade level, teaching service as a part of our curriculum is a necessary way to reinforce the idea that all Catholics are called to serve and helps to model this teaching as they grow and confirm as adults in our Church.

- **All students in grades 6-8 will complete a mandatory service project in school under the direction of the Religion Administrator and Religion teachers. Each project will be grade-level appropriate and the students will complete a Service Reflection following the service endeavor. These students will earn a service grade for each project.**

If a student is absent on the day of the service project, it should be completed at home on their own time if applicable. The teacher will determine completion requirements.

For upper school, these hours will be completed outside of school and submitted for a grade by the conclusion of the second and fourth quarters.

- **All students in grades 9-10 are expected to devote 6 clock hours of Apostolic service before the end of the school year.**

- Students cannot get all 6 hours in one service project – hours must be earned from at least two different activities.
- Any school related activity can only count as a maximum of 2 total hours per activity.
- Exception: Catholic Church related activity (volunteer for Vacation Bible Camp, Faith Family Sundays, Edge Core Team, FMC Faith Camp)

- **All students in grades 11-12 are expected to devote 8 clock hours of Apostolic service before the end of the school year.**

- Students cannot get all 6 hours in one service project – hours must be earned from at least two different activities.
- Any school related activity can only count as a maximum of 2 total hours per activity.
- Exception: Catholic Church related activity (volunteer for Vacation Bible Camp, Faith Family Sundays, Life Teen Core Team, Edge Core Team, FMC Faith Camp)

- **All activities outside of school or church must be pre approved by the Director of Faith and Formation or by the theology teachers.**

- rachaeldavid@vermillioncatholic.com can be emailed if you have any questions about service hours approval.

At the conclusion of each service opportunity, the Service Reflection must be completed, signed by the supervisor of the project/ event/activity, and submitted to the student's Theology teacher by the school-wide submission dates. The student will receive a grade for the service hours *and* the reflection in the quarter in which the service was completed and submitted.

There will be some Apostolic service opportunities provided through our school. If a student does not reach his/her requirements through these, it is important that students, with the help of their parents or peers, take the initiative to arrange other opportunities to complete his/her hours. It is not the school's responsibility to complete or arrange the required hours. On the next page, we have attached many opportunities and ideas that you may pursue to complete your hours.

Upper School Submission Dates:

Students should submit the required paperwork and the required amount of hours by the following deadlines. Any student falling short of his/her service requirement will earn a 0 for that assignment in that grading period.

First Deadline:

- All students in grades 9-10 are required to submit 3 clock hours and the required paperwork by **Friday, December 5, 2024.**
- All students in grades 11-12 are required to submit 4 clock hours and the required paperwork by **Friday, December 5, 2024.**

Second Deadline:

- All students in grades 9-10 are required to submit 3 clock hours and the required paperwork by **Wednesday, May 7, 2025.**
- All students in grades 11-12 are required to submit 4 clock hours and the required paperwork by **Wednesday, May 7, 2025.**

Service Opportunities & Contact Information

Use this information below to help guide you in completing your service hours, but please note that this is not the all inclusive list of what is accepted for fulfilling service hours. If you have any questions about whether or not your service hours will be accepted, please contact your Theology teacher or the Director of Faith and Formation at rachael david@vermilioncatholic.com.

School Liturgies

Altar Serving • Mrs. Rachael David

A student can earn 2 total clock hours for serving at school liturgies for the Academic year. You must keep track of the dates you serve. (a minimum of 4 liturgies)

Lectoring • Mrs. Rachael David

A student can earn 1 clock hour for reading at school liturgies for the Academic year. You must keep track of and record the dates you lector for Masses (a minimum of 4 Liturgies)

Music Ministry • Mrs. Laura Humble

A student can earn 2 total clock hours for singing in MM at school liturgies for the Academic year.

VC Development Office • Ms. Jessica Cormier/Mrs. Ann Hargrave

You are always invited to volunteer for major school events to fulfill your service hours and/or at school-wide work days.

Serving as a volunteer on St. Mary Magdalen's Edge Core Teams, Life Teen Core Team, or Faith Family Sundays

John Listi • 337-893-0244 • johnvlist@gmail.com

St. Mary Magdalen Church Office • Abbeville, LA

337-893-0244 • 300 Pere Megret Street • Abbeville, LA 70510

Christian Service Center • Abbeville, LA

337-893-9756 • 701 Chevis Street • Abbeville, LA 70510

Local Nursing Homes • Abbeville, LA

Contact on an individual basis due to visitation rules and expectations.

Vermilion Parish Public Library

<https://www.vermilionparishlibrary.com/>

Abbeville location • 405 E St Victor Street • Abbeville, LA 70510 • 337-893-2674

Catholic Charities of Acadiana • Diocese of Lafayette, LA

<http://catholiccharitiesacadiana.org/> • <http://catholiccharitiesacadiana.org/volunteer-calendar>