

SERVICE OPPORTUNITY SUGGESTIONS

Confirmation candidates may participate in a variety of service opportunities to complete their ministry requirement. We serve others as members of the Body of Christ here on earth and to initiate us into what the Church asks of all its members in emulation of Jesus Christ and for his honor and glory. Some possibilities for this service are listed below:

- ✠ Various Nativity of Our Lord parish service opportunities (**see following page for details and contacts**)
- ✠ Neighborhood: Offer your services to the elderly or sick in your neighborhood to do yard work, shop for groceries, run other errands, etc.
- ✠ Community: participating in serving at community-sponsored events; serving as a member of the town's Youth Court program; volunteering at places like the Boys and Girls Club of Orchard Park (667-0841 administrative offices or 662-1941; club website: www.bgclubop.org), the numerous retirement and nursing homes for the elderly such as Orchard Glen Retirement Community (662-5544); Orchard Heights (662-0651); Baker Manor (667-0001); etc.; community programs for children or other disadvantaged people; assisting at fundraisers for charities or for individuals in need; volunteering at food banks to collect, shelve, or distribute food to those in need; serving at soup kitchens; any care for creation activities.
- ✠ Volunteering help at centers such as St. Luke's Mission of Mercy (894-4476) website: www.stlukemissionofmercy.org/contact_us.html; Response to Love Center (804-7030); St. Vincent de Paul Society (needs volunteers for thrift store, warehouse, maintenance, dining room, central office and special projects (882-3360) website: www.svdpwny.org/volunteer.html; Ladies of Charity Thrift Store (895-4001); South Buffalo Community Table (822-3193); Nicaraguan Mission Project (pack donated goods for the poor in Nicaragua on Tuesday mornings 688-0010); Ronald McDonald House (883-1177, website: www.rmhc.org/how-you-can-help/volunteer); Food Bank of WNY (website: www.foodbankwny.org/howto/volunteer_opportunities.htm); Friends of Night People (needs volunteers to help prepare, serve dinner to homeless and those in need 884-5375 website: www.friendsofnightpeople.org); Fish of East Aurora (food pantry and clothing distribution (652-7272); Kevin Guest House (845-8051); Roswell Park Cancer Institute (845-8051) and other hospitals and nursing homes.
- ✠ Collecting items for various Catholic Charities sponsored places such as the Immigration and Refugee Assistance Office, Foster Care, Child and Senior Adult Day Care, Parish Outreach and Advocacy Pantries. Email me at dkosinski@nativityschool.net for more information.

Nativity of Our Lord Parish
Orchard Park, New York

Some opportunities to participate in your parish's life:

- *Being an altar server
- *Ushering at any one of the weekend Masses
- *Becoming a lector to do the readings at Mass
- *After Confirmation, you may become a special minister of the Eucharist
- *Singing in the Choir
- *Being an adorer of the Blessed Sacrament for a specific hour
- *Helping with the monthly mailing of the parish newsletter
(Call the parish office at 662-9339 if you are interested in any of the above ministries.)

- *Helping to maintain the grounds by doing gardening, planting, etc.
- *Volunteering to assist in other parish buildings maintenance activities
(Call the head of maintenance, Mr. Jim Flading, at 662-9339, ext. 117.)

- *Joining our Life Teen group and participating in various leadership activities
- *Becoming a leader of our middle school group, The Edge
(Call the parish Youth Minister, Patrick Murphy, at 662-9339, ext. 131.)

- *Participating in food drives and other activities sponsored by our parish Outreach Office
- *Working with the St. Vincent de Paul Society to help the poor
(Call Sr. Beth Hays, our Outreach Coordinator, at 662-1302.)

- *Volunteering to assist in the elementary school faith formation program
(Call Mary Barone, Director of Faith Formation, at 662-2169.)

- *Volunteering to participate in activities sponsored by the parish school such as the Oktoberfest (in September 2012) and other school activities
(Call Mrs. Marcia Mugridge, school secretary, at 662-7572.)

These are only some possibilities. Once you become attuned to the parish or community's needs, you will find many more ways in which to minister to others.