



UPDATE ON SERVICE HOURS FOR 2019-20

March 20, 2020

Dear Guerin Catholic families,

I know with our current situation at the school there are a great many changes and adjustments that we all must get used to. Foremost at the forefront of my mind as service coordinator is what to do about service hours. While service has always been important to the Guerin Catholic community, I nor anyone else want service hours to become a point of stress or anxiety during our global pandemic. The situation is ever-changing, but we have done our best to accommodate students in meeting their service hour requirements without it becoming a burden in light of a unique and unprecedented situation.

As of right now, the amount of service hours you are required to obtain, and their due date, has not changed. **Service hours are still due by May 11th**, and you are still required to obtain **30 hours of service** before that date. However, there are big changes being made to how service hours can be obtained and recorded.

First, and most drastically, there are two new types of service hours you can earn: in addition to Community and Parish service hours, you will be able to earn Family and Spiritual Growth service hours as well.

- **Parish and Community service hours are staying the same.** I would like to recommend that for any service opportunity that has not been cancelled, please exercise extreme caution when discerning if you should serve. Do not serve at any place that poses a health risk or for any person with a weakened or compromised immune system (i.e. nursing homes or hospitals), and do not go to serve in a community or parish if you or anyone in your family is ill.
- **Family service hours are being added as a category** for the remainder of the school year. Family service hours are just what they sound like: service to your family. Anything that you can do to help and support your family, especially during times like these, will count. This also means that your parents are able to sign off on these hours, while they are not able to for other categories of service.
- **Spiritual Growth hours** will be designed to help you grow in faith and encounter Our Lord at home. Our relationship with God is important, and it is especially important to stay close to God in times like these. Spiritual Growth hours will enable you some time to serve yourself and your relationship with God by growing in faith and logging service hours for it.

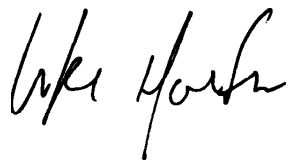
SEE PAGES 3 AND 4 FOR MORE INFORMATION AND SUGGESTIONS FOR THINGS TO DO FOR BOTH SPIRITUAL GROWTH AND FAMILY SERVICE HOURS

In addition to the new categories, **there are also no limits on which hours can count toward your 30 required hours.** You can split them up however you would like, or have any category count as the entire 30 hour requirement. For example, you now may have 30 Community hours alone to complete the requirement; it is no longer necessary to have 18 Parish hours as well. This also goes for the Family and Spiritual Growth categories as well.

All service hours should still be logged the same way: through Mobile Serve. I plan to make some videos in the coming days to help walk people through the system so they know how to use it. While the scope of accepted service is much wider, you must still fill out every field when submitting hours for those hours to be accepted. **However, you now only need one form of verification to get service hours approved - meaning, that you need only an email, signature, photo, or geotag to verify your hours.**

I also want everyone to know that these changes will all apply retroactively. Any service hours that have been submitted prior to June 1st, 2019, if they meet these requirements, are fair game for any students that are ahead of the curve. I will also go back through any rejected hours that have not been resubmitted to check to see if they qualify with the new requirements. Please also submit any hours you may have not yet submitted.

Service is, and should always be, a way of sharing in the love of Christ. While the global pandemic certainly prevents us from serving in greater capacities, there are still ways to serve and love others and ourselves. Hopefully, the new service requirements will enable us to do just that, even in the face of such an overwhelming situation. Saint Teresa of Calcutta is known for saying, *"We cannot all do great things. But we can all do small things with great love."* Guerin Catholic is used to doing great things, but now we are called to do small things with great love.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Luke Hoefer'.

Luke Hoefer
Campus Minister

SERVICE HOUR EXPANSION

Complete any of these opportunities or suggest any of your own.
Submit on MobileServe with a brief reflection.

Due to the unprecedented circumstances facing us at the moment, for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year service hours are being changed and expanded. One of the changes is the inclusion of **Spiritual Growth** and **Family service hours**. Spiritual Growth hours give you the opportunity to grow in love and charity without the resources available to you during a typical school week. Family service hours give you the opportunity to serve your family.

Below are options you may pursue to gain Spiritual Growth and Family service hours. You may also suggest other Spiritual Growth ideas to Campus Ministry for approval. Log each one in the same way that you would any other hours: put in the time it took you to complete the activity, list what you did as the location, and then write a short reflection in the “Tell Your Story” section.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH SERVICE HOURS

Quick Reflections

*These reflections are quick, and can easily be incorporated into your daily routine.
Click on the links below.*

[Pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet with the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal](#)

[Blessed Is She Daily Devotions](#)

[Watch a video about a Saint](#)

[Pray As You Go—Lectio Divina](#)

[Catholic Art Reflection](#)

[Loyola Press 3 Minute Retreats](#)

Prayerful Practice

[Videos on Spiritual Growth](#)

[Pray the Rosary](#)

[Rosary Videos \(Why and How to pray\)](#)

[All Things Catholic Podcast](#)

[Spiritual Gifts Assessment from Notre Dame](#)

[Sign up for the Be Not Afraid Online Conference](#)

Longer Reflections and Practices

[YouTube Playlist of various speakers and reflections](#)

[Church Life Journal Reflections through Notre Dame](#)

[The Lanky Guys Podcast - Reflections on the Week's Gospel Reading](#)

[Stations of the Cross](#) *(Perfect for Lent)*

[Embrace Catholic Culture](#) *Go to the day, complete any of the activities or cook any of the recipes for your family in the sidebar*

Really Go Deep

[Journey With The Saint John's Bible](#)

FAMILY SERVICE HOURS

Your family needs you during this difficult time! These hours give you the opportunity to show love and give charitably with the realities of quarantines and social distancing. “Service starts in the home”, as they say, so use these suggestions to gain service hours with your own family. Here are some ideas of how you might serve your family.

Help your siblings with their e-learning assignments

Cook and serve meals to your family

Clean up and do the dishes after dinner

General cleaning and disinfecting in your home

Do any sort of yard work without pay

Any home project for your parents

Babysit younger siblings

Writing letters to family members that live far away

Calling/facetiming any sick or infirm relatives that are unable to have visitors
due to their condition

Cook a meal and bring to your neighbors