

St. George Catholic School
Service In God's Name (SIGN) Program

Service In God's Name (SIGN) is a required community service program for students in 7th and 8th grade. The program was created to help students recognize the needs of the poor and vulnerable within their community and understand how they can make a positive difference. Through a variety of volunteer opportunities, students gain firsthand experience with the concerns and challenges faced by others in the community. It is our hope that these experiences inspire students to continue practicing the corporal and spiritual works of mercy throughout their lives.

Requirements

- Each student is required to complete 6 hours of service which will count for an assessment grade worth 60 points in Religion class during the 4th quarter. In accordance with school policy, a 10% deduction will be taken each day after the due date. After the fifth day past the due date, a zero will be recorded.
- **Students are required to complete a SIGN Program Verification Form and submit it to their religion teacher (see page 3) within two weeks of completing the service activity or within two weeks of the start of the school year if the service was completed during the summer.**
- **All service hour verification forms must be submitted by Tuesday, April 6, 2027.**
- Students may ONLY perform service hours from the organizations listed on the next page. No exceptions will be given.
- NOTE: Service hours cannot be earned by doing things at home. All service must be done on-site and supervised by someone in the organization you are serving. Family members cannot sign a student's SIGN Program Verification Form.

Please contact your child's Religion teacher if you have any questions.

May God bless you and your family in this endeavor as we seek to bring God's mercy to our community.

Mrs. Lara Bettencourt
Coordinator of Religious Education
St. George Catholic School

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Approved Organizations

Below are the **ONLY** approved agencies that you can contact for information on volunteering. Please be advised that some agencies will not allow students to volunteer without parental supervision. Please contact the agencies directly for details. **Please note that service is meant to include direct interaction with the person or group of people you are serving.**

- American Cancer Society
- American Heart Association
- American Red Cross
- Animal shelters -- **work must be done on site, not at home. Animal adoptions and washing laundry at home WILL NOT be accepted as service.**
- Baton Rouge Wheelchair Tennis Association
- Battered Women's program
- Bella Bowman Foundation
- Bishop Stanley Ott Shelter for men or for women
- BREC -- Events benefiting area charities held at BREC
- Cancer Services of BR
- Capital Gala for Our Lady of the Lake Institute
- Catholic Charities Services
- Charitable events benefitting area Fire and Police departments
- Children's Miracle Network
- Church Parish Ministries for weekend Masses (Nursery, Children's Liturgy, Children's Choir, etc.)
- Church Parish Vacation Bible School
- Church Parish First Reconciliation retreat
- Church Parish First Communion retreat
- Church Parish First Communion reception
- Church Parish **weekend** altar serving
- Dragon Hearts - Service Projects **for the wider community** (be specific).
- DSAG (Down's Syndrome Awareness Group). **Assisting for charitable events** in the Baton Rouge area.
- Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank
- Habitat for Humanity
- Junior League of Baton Rouge Charity Events
- Keep Baton Rouge/Tiger Town Beautiful
- Louisiana Special Olympics
- Miracle League at Cypress Mounds – contact Charlene Lauman
- Missionaries of Charity at St. Agnes
- Muscular Dystrophy Association
- National Charity League charity work
- Nursing homes/assisted living facilities. **Visiting your own relatives DOES NOT count as service.**
- Salvation Army
- SG Church Parish Fair -- **2 hours max**
- SGS Athletic Association – includes concessions, cleaning before and after games, set up, and take down – **2 hours max**
- SGS Staff -- Assisting SGS teachers or staff (**non-family members only**) – **2 hours max**
- SGS Used Uniform Sale – **2 hours max**
- Shepherd's Market
- St. Jude Walk – contact Charlene Lauman
- St. Vincent de Paul Ministries
- Team of Dreams in Ascension Parish
- The Purple Cow
- The Wounded Warrior Foundation
- Volunteers of America
- YMCA -- Events benefiting area charities held at the YMCA

Service In God's Name (SIGN) Program Verification Form

This form must be completed and submitted to your religion teacher within two weeks of the date of the service or within two weeks of the start of school (if service was completed over the summer). All program verification forms are due by Tuesday, April 6, 2027.

The following information must be completed by the student:

Student's Name: _____

Grade/Religion Section: _____

Date of Service: _____

Organization served: _____

Number of hours served: _____

The following information must be completed by the supervisor (from the organization) of the service:
****In lieu of this information, a verification letter may be attached to this form if the organization has its own verification form.**

Name of Supervisor (printed): _____

Signature of Supervisor: _____ **Date:** _____

Contact Number: _____ **Contact email:** _____

SIGN Reflection

Directions: The following questions must be answered by the student in complete sentences.

1. Describe in detail the service that you performed for this organization (at least 3 sentences are required).

2. Explain why you chose this service opportunity (at least 3 sentences are required).

3. Explain how this project or service helped someone else (at least 3 sentences are required).

4. Explain God's message to you in completing this service work (at least 4 sentences are required).
