

Dear SJNRCS Middle School Students and Parents,

We are called to serve God by showing love and concern for others and by serving one another. We can actually grow spiritually as we encounter others in service. At SJNRCS, we reach out to one another and those around us by serving our school community, our parishes and our neighborhoods.

In the SJNRCS Middle School there is a service requirement for all students on a monthly basis starting in September. Students in 8th grade must complete 3 hours of service, 7th graders must complete 2 hours of service and 6th graders must complete 1 hour of service per month. A form, a sample of which is on the back of this letter, will be posted on Mrs. Snipes and Mrs. Fanning’s Weebly pages. The completed form must be turned in to Mrs. Snipes or Mrs. Fanning by the assigned date, usually the first school day of the following month.

A Religion grade will be given for the service. In order to receive a 100, all service must be completed, the form must be filled out properly and completely, and it must be turned in on time. The completed form may always be turned in early. Points are deducted for missing signature, etc. Unfortunately, if the student chooses not to take this seriously, the grade may become a problem. We are giving you this information now and in writing so that there will be no misunderstanding concerning this requirement. The service requirement will begin in September and the first form will be due early in October. Although we encourage summer service, the hours served before September do not count toward the requirement.

There are several guidelines for the service requirement. Service may not be for the immediate family. Students may not receive payment for service. Service during the school day does not count unless the student has given up his or her recess time. Participation in the grade level service projects (6th – collecting and bagging toiletries, 7th- baby blanket making, 8th – Clyde’s Kitchen) does not count. Other service at school that takes place before or after the actual school hours will be accepted. Students may always ask the teacher if a particular service is acceptable for credit.

There are countless ways to serve in our communities and we will often give suggestions and seek volunteers for particular service projects throughout the year (i.e. sandwich making for SVDP). We suggest that students volunteer as altar servers for the Sunday liturgy, work with the school safety patrol, help teachers before or after school, volunteer with the Parish School of Religion (Sunday School), work at school or parish sponsored events (such as basketball scorekeepers, food Saturday and Sunday @ SJN Nov. 17&18), and help at soup kitchens, nursing homes or shelters in the community (SJN has Family Promise frequently). We encourage family participation in service projects and in some cases parent supervision is needed. We encourage use of Pebble Tossers, a nonprofit connecting kids and families with age appropriate volunteer opportunities throughout Metro Atlanta. They host monthly projects that you can easily register for on their website: <https://www.pebbletossers.com/>. Another great opportunity and very safe for middle schoolers is with Foster Care Support Foundation – the website, <http://www.fostercare.org/volunteering>, has a list of possible volunteer tasks.

We hope this letter clarifies the expectations for the SJNRCS Middle School service requirements.
Kindly return the slip at the bottom of this page to Mrs. Snipes or Mrs. Fanning no later than August 30.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Emily Snipes and Mrs. Kathy Fanning
6th-8th grades religion teachers

+++++CUT HERE+

We understand the requirements for SJNRCS Middle School Service.

Student name: _____ **HR:** _____

Signature: _____

Parent name: _____

Parent’s Signature: _____

SJNRCS MIDDLE SCHOOL SERVICE RECORD

Student Name: _____ 5pts. HR: _____ 1pt.

Requirements per month:
 8th grade: 3 hours; 7th grade: 2 hours; 6th grade: 1 hour

Remember that the service may not be for your immediate family and you may not receive any compensation for it. Points will be deducted for lateness, incomplete forms and incomplete service.

Month: _____ 2pts.

DATE	SPECIFIC SERVICE PERFORMED % of grade	NUMBER OF HOURS % of grade	SIGNATURE OF PARENT OR SERVICE RECIPIENT 20 pts.
2pts			

Signature of student: _____ 2 points _____

Your signature says that the information on this form is accurate.
 Honesty is expected.

“Whatever you do, do from the heart, as for the Lord and not for others, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ.” Colossians 3:23-24

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Signature of student: _____

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