

Christ the King Catholic High School Service Hour Guidelines

Our school motto exhorts us, “to think, believe and **serve**,” in the name of Christ our King. Each student must complete 18 hours of service for each year they attend CTK. We arrived at the total of 18 hours by applying the scriptural exhortation that each believer tithe to God. This custom has traditionally been displayed by having a believer give 10% of their produce (crops, livestock) to the Lord. It has typically been translated to monetary donations in today’s society. Our students are not in a position to offer either of these, however they are in a position to offer themselves. Since they attend school approximately 180 days per year, a tithe of that time would be 18 days. We are asking that each Crusader offer one hour of service to God for those 18 days.

Service should be a consistent habit and attitude. Therefore, students are encouraged to spread their service out over the whole school year. As a general rule, approved service hours include any activity that is done for the benefit of another in need, in which the student is not paid for their work. Below are some general guidelines/examples to follow for approved/non-approved service hours:

- Approved:
 - Serving at a church, club, nonprofit, or other group at one of their service/outreach events, programs, or ministries
 - Helping at Christ the King *outside* of school hours (ex. Voluntarily setting up/cleaning classes and other school spaces, etc.)
- Non-approved:
 - Any expected chores, household keeping, or general family assistance
 - Any service done at Christ the King, *while school is in session* (ex. helping to move tables or chairs for Mass set up, etc.)

An important note: we encourage our students to participate in a variety of service experiences. While we will accept a student who performs one act of service for an entire semester (example: altar serving, assisting at homeless shelters, visiting nursing homes, etc. for the required 18 hours), we invite our students to engage in service that is both meaningful and challenging. Service is a requirement, but it should be an enjoyable and fulfilling experience, and we should be encouraged by our Catholic faith to live out lifelong service.

Along with the service performed, students will be asked to write a reflection (one paragraph) on their service experience, answering one of the following questions:

- 1) What did you learn about yourself, your community, and others as a result of this service experience?

- 2) How does this service experience reflect the school's mission statement: to believe sincerely, think critically, act responsibly, and serve others in the name of Christ the King?

Since this is a requirement of our overall curriculum, failure to complete these hours will result in report card holds, in the same manner as other outstanding commitments.

To verify and complete service hours, login to your x2vol account here: <https://www.x2vol.com>. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Daniel Torres at DJTorres@ctkchs.org