

## Christian Service Hours per Year

The graduation requirement is a minimum of 100 hours of Christian Service. A minimum of 25 hours per year are required as a graduation requirement. Any Christian Service that meets the guidelines of the Christian Service Handbook are acceptable.

## **Christian Service Guidelines**

Inspired by Jesus, Fr. Louis Querbes, the founder of the Clerics of St. Viator had a special concern for those “accounted of little importance” in society. As a Catholic and Viatorian school, Saint Viator students are called to be of service to others, especially those with significant material, physical, emotional and spiritual needs.

Service comes in many forms. **Direct service** involves person-to-person contact *with* those being served while **indirect service** is working *for* people without person-to-person contact. Saint Viator believes that a blending of both direct and indirect service with a marginalized community, community group, or within the Saint Viator High School community will enhance a student’s faith life.

Students must complete marginalized service hours with an approved not-for-profit agency, such as those found on our website. Any new not-for-profit requires advanced approval from the Christian Service office. The approval form for new agencies is found on our website.

Students are encouraged to complete their Christian Service by blending their service with **marginalized**, and within their **community**. Students are required to complete at least 25 hours in service to the marginalized of society before they graduate. The remaining 75 hours may be completed in community service, in-house or with the marginalized of society. Students are encouraged to complete the remaining required hours in an area of service for which they have a passion.

Saint Viator High School reserves the right to deny any service hours offered to organizations known, or are discerned to be, in direct violation of the Church’s teachings on the dignity and value of the human person. Each service hour must be verifiable. Questions can be directed to the Coordinator of Christian Service.

### **2016 – 2017 Christian Service Hours Quick Reference Guide**

- A Minimum of 100 hours to fulfill graduation requirement

A minimum of 25 hours with the marginalized people of society

A minimum of 75 additional hours within the community and/or with the marginalized people of society

- Types of organizations that fulfill the 25 hours with the marginalized

Programs for people with special needs  
Women’s/Homeless shelters  
Soup kitchens  
Food drives

Pro-life organizations  
Hospital programs  
Nursing programs  
Tutoring programs

- Types of organizations that fulfill the hours as community service/civic society

Park Districts  
Community festivals

School  
Civic groups

Parish (lecturing/altar service/catechist)  
Sports clubs

Students may also have up to 15 hours of the remaining 75 hours designated as “in house

Retreat Leader  
Future Lions

Concessions  
Usher

Feeder programs  
Recycling

### **Non-Completion of Christian Service Hours**

A student who has not completed a minimum 10 hours of Christian Service by January 10 will be ineligible for any co-curricular activities until the hours are logged, verified, and approved. Any student who still does not have the 10 hours completed and recorded by February 1 will be suspended from school without being able to make up any missed work (including quizzes, tests, etc.) until the hours are approved.

Freshmen, Sophomores, and Juniors: The additional 15 hours for the year are due by May 20. Any student who does not meet the May 20 deadline along with being ineligible for co-curricular activities will also be assigned to detention each day after school until the hours are logged, verified, and approved.

The senior year deadline to complete Christian Service is April 21. A senior who has not completed his or her service by April 21, will be ineligible to participate in any co-curricular activities, lose all senior privileges (including early release) and will be required to attend detention each day after school until the hours are logged, verified, and approved.