

Guidelines for Service Experiences

The primary goal of the student service program at Bishop McGuinness is to help students find those places where their gifts meet the needs of the community and to develop hearts that desire to serve. The following guidelines outline what qualifies for service hours.

School Related Service

Clubs

- All club service projects must be pre-approved by the Coordinator of Campus Ministry.
- Once approved, club service hours can be submitted in one of two ways:
 - o The student logs their own hours in MobileServe and has them verified by the teacher who moderates the club.
 - o The teacher or club president submits the hours to the Coordinator of Campus Ministry and she will log the hours.

School Sponsored Groups

(Honor societies, leadership groups, etc)

- Participation in events during school hours do not count towards service hours. Examples include (but are not limited to):
 - o Giving school tours
 - o Hosting middle school events
 - o Leading retreats
- Service performed outside of school hours may count towards service hours, which includes:
 - o Evening events
 - o Summer camps

Other School Related

- Activities that are required as part of a class curriculum, whether during school or outside of school, do not count towards service hours.
- Assisting with your class Mass or an all school Mass do not count towards service hours because you are required to be there.
- Examples of how to serve at Bishop that count towards service hours:
 - o Working concessions or being a team manager
 - o Helping set up for all school Masses (in the morning before school)
 - o Assisting with admissions events after school
 - o Tutoring

Service Outside of School

- Community service is defined as any unpaid volunteer work done for a **non-profit organization** that serves the common good.
- Helpful indicators of a qualifying organization:
 - o The organization has an identifiable nonprofit mission.
 - o They have a Volunteer Coordinator or structured volunteer program.
 - o You can clearly name the service organization when submitting your hours.

Unpaid work

- Unpaid work does not necessarily equal “service.” Catholic social teaching affirms that workers deserve to be paid fairly. For-profit businesses should compensate those who contribute to their operations.
- Unpaid work where you are benefitting by gaining experience or knowledge towards a specific career field is considered an internship.

Acts of Kindness

The following are valuable and encouraged acts of kindness but do not meet the criteria for community service hours:

- Helping a neighbor, family member, or friend
- Babysitting, pet sitting, house sitting
- Yard work or chores
- Collecting or shopping for items to donate

Some Suggested Service Locations

Greensboro

Out of the Garden

- Weekend & evening opportunities available
- Sign up online

Backpack Beginnings

- Weekend & evening opportunities available
- Sign up online

Winston Salem

Second Harvest Foodbank

- Weekend opportunities available
- Sign up online

HOPE of Winston Salem

- Weekend opportunities available
- Sign up online

Other popular opportunities:

- Horsepower
- Samaritan Ministries
- Senior Services
- Local churches
- YMCA
- Animal shelters/humane societies
- Schools
- Local 5k/10k road races

Go to volunteermatch.org or check your local church’s website for more volunteer opportunities.