

SERVICE LEARNING INFORMATION

2025-2026



REQUIREMENTS

SPARK: GRADE 7 AND 8

Students must complete a minimum of one service activity from each column of the SMA BINGO Card. Students should submit a proposal according to their religion teacher's expectations and deadline.

Students should take photos, gather relevant images and/or short video clips of the activities they complete for documentation to include in their digital diary. To receive full points, the images must be of the student completing the service. If they do not have a proper photo, they must have an adult email your Religion teacher to confirm they have completed the service activity.

As students complete the activities, they should keep track of their thoughts and emotions. It is recommended that students keep a journal for reflection.

Students should compose and submit a digital diary according to their religion teacher's expectations.

This diary should include answers to the following questions:

1. How did completing this service make you feel? Has your perspective about a certain issue or cause changed?
2. What knowledge or wisdom have you gained from completing this activity? Have you learned anything new?
3. How have you changed or grown personally and/or spiritually?
4. How will this experience change how you serve others in the future? Give an example.

The digital diary should be submitted by Friday, March 6, 2026.

TORCH: GRADE 9 TO 11

Grade 9-11 students must complete 10 hours of in-person service. Service can be to their community, church or marginalized communities. **Grade 11 students must complete all 10 hours serving a marginalized community.**

Students must decide where they would like to complete their 10 hours of service and contact the organization to arrange a service placement well in advance of the proposal deadline. Students must submit a proposal according to their religion teacher's expectations and deadline. Students must have their site supervisor complete the attached form. If students volunteer at more than one site, they must submit one form for each site.

As students complete the activities, they should keep track of their thoughts and emotions. It is recommended that students keep a journal for reflection. After every visit, students should reflect on how they felt when they were engaged in completing the service.

Students should compose and submit a digital diary according to their religion teacher's expectations. This diary should include answers to the following questions:

1. How did completing this service make you feel? Has your perspective about a certain issue or cause changed?
2. What knowledge or wisdom have you gained from completing this activity? Have you learned anything new?
3. How have you changed or grown personally and/or spiritually?
4. How will this experience change how you serve others in the future? Give an example.

Students must also include a piece of scripture or spiritual/religious teaching that connects to their overall experience. The digital diary should be submitted by Friday, March 6, 2026.

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SERVICE LEARNING POSSIBILITIES

Community (Grade 9 and 10 only)

- Signing up for monthly AMS @ SMA experiences
- Recreation centres/programs
- Habitat for Humanity
- Harvest Manitoba
- Winnipeg Humane Society
- Canadian Cancer
- MS Society

Church (Grade 9 and 10 only)

- Catechism/Sunday School teaching
- Youth Ministry programs
- Stewardship and Outreach programs
- Development and Peace / Thinkfast Leadership

Marginalized Communities (Grade 9, 10 and 11)

People who are marginalized are people who are in need and are underserved in our society. Students are expected to be physically present to the people in need and/or the agencies working with the people in need. Examples would include:

- Visiting and working with people in an assisted living center
- Serving at a soup kitchen
- Working with Swim Abilities or Special Olympics
- Volunteering at inner-city schools or drop-in centers

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Service Learning is an integral part of a St. Mary's Academy education. In taking part in Service Learning students actively respond to needs in the community, church or school and they reflect on the experience. Service Learning does not receive any monetary rewards or remuneration. Students are required to complete a minimum of one activity from each column between **July 1, 2025 and March 6, 2026**. Please refer back to the Spark Cast Fire Service Learning Requirements for instructions and objectives.

Service Learning Cast Fire Card

S	P	A	R	K
Volunteer with an organization you have never worked with before	Check out Harvest Manitoba's website and collect food items from their top-ten list and deliver them	Choose an article of clothing in your closet, trace its origin, and present your findings on Fast Fashion to your Religion class	Help prepare the Holy Names Chapel for the next liturgical season. Contact Ms. LeMaitre	Create an anti-bullying or anti-racism prayer and share it at the start of your religion class
Choose a street in your neighbourhood and either pick up litter or shovel driveways there	Collect hygiene products for Main Street Project or House of Peace and contact Mrs. Cordeiro to arrange a drop-off	Create an infographic for Artbeat Studio advocating for Mental Health and share it with 3 people you know.	Check with the Spark Newspaper exec and ask what ideas they are working on. Offer to write and submit an article before February 21, 2026	Write a prayer for a community devastated by natural disasters and submit to Mrs. Cordeiro
CHOICE OF SERVICE IN YOUR COMMUNITY	MAKE A DONATION TO AN ORGANIZATION OF YOUR CHOICE	 PARTICIPATE IN ANY AMS @ SMA	VOLUNTEER ON A WEEKEND OR EVENING TO HELP WITH ANY SMA EVENT	CHOOSE AN ORGANIZATION OR ISSUE YOU CARE ABOUT AND WRITE A PRAYER TO READ IN CLASS
Write cheerful cards for residents living in a senior residence of your choice	Contact West Broadway Youth Outreach to find out what items they need and donate them	Research the Joy Smith Foundation for human trafficking . Choose to donate or fundraise with one of their activities	Research and raise money for one of the organizations that Mission Club partners with. Give a donation and an explanation of your choice to your Religion teacher	Write a prayer for Laudato Si' Week and submit to Mrs. Cordeiro by Feb. 27, 2026
Gather friends or family and volunteer at a food bank	In lieu of gifts, have friends and family donate to an organization of your choice for your birthday or another holiday	Create a poster on 3-meat free products and how it combats climate change.	Contact the Human Rights Team and help with one of their campaigns.	Write a prayer for one of the SNJM corporate stands

Contact servicelearning@smamb.ca - Mrs. Cecilia Kolt for more info.