

Named for the biblical passage that inspired them, “Faith without works is dead” (James 2:26), our signature WorX programs unfold through week-long mission retreats that incorporate equal parts service and reflection based on Catholic Social Teaching.



“Best week of my life.” -Participant

“WorX participants truly come home ignited – they are absolutely on fire to change the world.” - Parish Partner

“I enjoyed being at my service site so much that I forgot I was working!” -Participant

It is a pleasure to work with your students; they are kind, respectful, funny, and hard workers! It is clear that the chaperones have a great rapport with the students.” -Community Partner

“I was inspired to learn that by serving others and working for justice, I can help change the world.” -Participant

Key Offerings

- Parables that speak
- Faith that gives hope
- Powerful prayer services
- Life-changing service opportunities
- Friendships rooted in faith and service
- Thought provoking activities/discussions

What is the history of ServiceworX?

ServiceworX began in the summer of 2005 by the mother and son team of Helen and Sean Sanford. It was created in response to feedback from parents and participants of our high school program, JusticeworX. Parents, youth ministers and pastors were seeking a program for junior high students that enhanced their religious education with a fun and informative ministry experience. ServiceworX emerged out of that conversation and is a fantastic opportunity for middle school students.



Facilitated by dedicated and passionate youth ministry staff, ServiceworX is a fun-filled and exciting week that helps young people grow in faith and build relationships.

By empowering young people to help build the Kingdom of God through service to those in need, we are offering them a precious resource – a faith that speaks to their lives and helps them navigate the world in which they live.



A week-long service-immersion day program taking place at local parishes and schools.

ServiceworX is a life-changing program for junior high students that explores Catholic faith through service to those in need.



The mission of the Center for FaithJustice is to inspire the next generation of leaders by creating programs to serve those in need and educate for justice in the Catholic tradition.

Where will the participants be serving?

Participants will spend about 3 hours each day (Monday-Friday) at various service sites in their local communities.

Past sites have included soup kitchens, low-income nursing homes, low-income day care facilities, and food pantries. Service sites will rotate daily to give participants of range of experiences. Participants are under the supervision of ServiceworX staff members at all times during their time at service sites.



What does transportation involve?

Transportation is provided for participants to travel to and from service sites each day of the program. When requested by the parish, a school bus will be used to transport the participants. There are some locations that will require participants to travel to and from the work sites in rented vans operated solely by ServiceworX staff members. Seat belts are available for every participant and must be worn at all times.

Does our group need to send a chaperone?

No. We recognize how hard it is for many adults – youth ministers, parents, volunteers – to take time off to accompany a group of students, which is why we provide a well-trained staff. While we certainly encourage adult participants to accompany students, it is not required. If your group requires a chaperone to attend programs sponsored by the parish/school, we can accommodate that request with advance notice.

ServiceworX is led by adults/young adults committed to faith in action. All WorX staff members have VIRTUS certification, background checks, and driving history screenings. A ratio of 6 participants to 1 staff member is maintained all week.

What do I wear for ServiceworX?

Given agency regulations and community expectations it is necessary that students bring the proper attire. Modest clothing is required of all participants all times. This applies to both boys and girls and includes: knee (or near knee) length shorts, tee shirts with sleeves (rather than tank tops, midriiffs, etc.), and appropriate images or texts on clothing (no lewd images or language).

What is included in the fee?

ServiceworX is an all-inclusive program. We provide staffing, transportation to/from service sites, a small meal on Sunday, service site setups Monday through Friday, and educational programming/materials each afternoon of ServiceworX.

ServiceworX Schedule

Sunday is an opportunity for the staff and participants to meet, get to know each other and talk about what the week ahead will contain. Parents must sign their children in/out each program day.

8:30am – Participants Arrive to Parish

8:45am – Morning Prayer

9:00am – Travel to Service Sites

12:30pm – Return to Parish – Lunch

1:00pm – Community Activities/Recreation

1:30pm – Afternoon Program Activities

3:45pm – Closing Prayer

4:00pm – Dismissal

Sunday – orientation at parish

Friday – families invited to closing service



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