

## Group Confirmation Reflection paper

Together as a group please look over this reflection paper. Take some time to discuss the individual thoughts of everyone in the group. After your discussion think of some way that your group can present your experience to the larger group. (power point, poster, hand outs, lead a group activity or discussion, etc.). The following reflection questions are to be covered in the project but are not meant to limit what you say and do. Feel free to be creative and add more. You do not have to answer these questions in any order. **Those that attend the ocean clean up must break up into two separate groups.**

Remember to take this seriously. Service needs to be from the heart. We are not having you attend these projects to add more to your already busy schedule. We really want you to connect with the people you serve and think about what this has to do with your confirmation. You will present your project at one of the confirmation meetings in the spring.

1. Why did you choose this project? What did you do while you were there? Share something you experienced by helping out.
2. Through our Baptism we are called to go out like the Apostles did and share the Good News of Christ with everyone.  
How does this service to the community connect you to the whole church and help you to live out this baptismal call to share the Good News with everyone?
3. What does service have to do with confirmation? How do you think this service will help you to enter into this confirmation experience?
4. Read Catechism Reference

**356** Of all visible creatures only man is "able to know and love his creator".<sup>219</sup> He is "the only creature on earth that God has willed for its own sake",<sup>220</sup> and he alone is called to share, by knowledge and love, in God's own life. It was for this end that he was created, and this is the fundamental reason for his dignity:

**357** Being in the image of God the human individual possesses the dignity of a person, who is not just something, but someone. He is capable of self-knowledge, of self-possession and of freely giving himself and entering into communion with other persons. And he is called by grace to a covenant with his Creator, to offer him a response of faith and love that no other creature can give in his stead.

**358** God created everything for man,<sup>222</sup> but man in turn was created to serve and love God and to offer all creation back to him:

*What is it that is about to be created, that enjoys such honor? It is man that great and wonderful living creature, more precious in the eyes of God than all other creatures! For him the heavens and the earth, the sea and all the rest of creation exist. God attached so much importance to his salvation that he did not spare his own Son for the sake of man. Nor does he ever cease to work, trying every possible means, until he has raised man up to himself and made him sit at his right hand.<sup>223</sup>*

After reading this passage, why do you think God created us? How does serving others help us to understand our purpose in this life? How does this project in particular help you to love God, others, and yourself more?