



PROVIDENCE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

1800 W. Lincoln Highway • New Lenox, Illinois 60451 • (815) 485-2136 • www.providencethecatholic.org

PASTORAL DEPARTMENT

March 2023

Dear Parent/Guardian of a Junior, Sophomore or Freshman student,

The Pastoral Department has planned an **All-School Retreat on Monday, March 27th**. All retreats will be held on the campus of Providence Catholic. This letter serves to inform you of the structure of the day and to seek your prayerful support.

- The bus schedule for the morning will be as usual for the normal school day. Our retreat day begins the same time as school, 7:55 a.m. All students will report to their assigned classrooms for the start of the day.
- The theme of the freshman and sophomore retreat is "Augustinian Values – Truth, Unity & Love." The day will include a lunch and will conclude by 1:10 p.m. If you drive your student to school, you may pick them up after 1:10 p.m. Those students who take the bus will leave school at 1:25 p.m.
- The junior retreat is led by Fr. Tom McCarthy, O.S.A. and will include several activities and small group discussions. The day will include a lunch and will conclude by 1:10 p.m. If you drive your student to school, you may pick them up after 1:10 p.m. Those students who take the bus will leave school at 1:25 p.m.
- The dress code for the day will be casual, but modest.

Please remember that this retreat day is mandatory, a requirement for the successful completion of this school year and progression into the next one. If your student misses this retreat for any reason (including illness), they will be required to make up this obligation by attending another retreat approved by the Pastoral Department. **YOUR STUDENT MAY HAVE TO ATTEND EITHER A WEEKEND RETREAT OR A RETREAT THIS SUMMER IF THEY MISS THIS RETREAT!**

You may be tempted to ask why a retreat is an obligation. A retreat is an opportunity to experience faith on a more personal level and on a level different than "book knowledge." It allows for a "retreat" from the typical academic day and can provide a profound spiritual experience, increase self-knowledge and deepen the relationship among members of each class. The most important things we learn in life are faith, hope and love. This is why we make it mandatory for all students to attend a retreat---not just for their increased theological understanding of life, but for a faith experience with the Lord. Let us all work together toward that end.

Please keep us in your prayers!

In Faith,