



Campus Ministry

"Until Christ is formed in you... " Galatians 4:19

Campus Ministry is a vibrant and integral part of Saint Bernard School that creates and nurtures a faith filled community by incorporating the Xaverian values - humility, trust, simplicity, zeal and compassion. The office of campus ministry provides students and staff with various opportunities to practice and grow in their faith, and promotes values to help them be formed in the image and likeness of God. The ministry to serve is done in campus ministry with the assistance of theology department, faculty, staff, administrators, senior leaders, parents and alumni.

The mission and vision of our school - to be attentive to the teachings of Jesus Christ and generate growth in maturity, behavior, character and service to others are done through three major ways:

Sacrament and Spiritual practices

Campus ministry serves the Roman Catholic identity of our school by organizing monthly liturgies. Liturgy is the source of life for the faithful and reflects the participation of Christ's church in the work of God. Holy Eucharist is celebrated for the whole school including faculty, staff and is open to parents and families of our students. The sacrament of reconciliation is offered during the liturgical seasons of Advent and Lent. The music department promotes an atmosphere of prayer by bringing music into the liturgical life of the community. There are prayer services organized by the theology department during different times of the academic year. Spiritual direction is also available for students and faculty who wish to grow more in the life of God.

Faculty and Student retreats

Campus ministry offers a variety of retreats to faculty and students according to their grades. The faculty retreat is held at the beginning of the school year as we come together as Saint Bernard family to reflect on the past year and prepare for the new academic year. Student retreats are based on different grade levels

6th & 7th Grade Retreat - Led by our middle school teachers, this half-day retreat in the fall focuses on celebrating friendship and community with talks and various activities

8th Grade Retreat - This retreat is meant to help students to transition into high school as they are beginning a new life. It is led by our Junior and Senior XBSS leaders_____

9th Grade Retreat - This is a day-long retreat led by Senior leaders in fall. Freshmen year is filled with transitions; for some a new school, for others an adjustment to new teachers, classes and friends. This retreat is an opportunity to build a community and learn about Xaverian values that serves as our school's foundation.

10th Grade Retreat – This day-long retreat is held off campus in the spring. It is led by our Senior XBSS leaders on the importance of friendship with others and with God.

11th Grade Retreat - This is a five-day retreat held each year in March with the students from the twelve other Xaverian schools. Students in the Junior class have the opportunity to apply for this leadership role and attend the retreat. The chosen leaders are announced and recognized at the December Feast of Saint Francis Mass/prayer service

12th Grade Retreat - Rising Seniors are invited to participate in Senior Leadership Institute, "SLI", a three-day/two-night retreat in August before the new school year starts. This is an exciting opportunity to become part of the student leadership team. Through this retreat, students participate in team building and leadership skill activities, grow in faith and get prepared to bring their skills and talents back to our school community throughout their senior year. Students grow in the knowledge of themselves, confidence and their relationship with God during this meaningful retreat experience.

Community services and Outreach programs

Community service is an integral part of our putting "faith into action". Sharing our time, talents, resources and our concern and care for others is an important part of our curriculum. We reach out to larger communities through various activities like

- St. Vincent de Paul soup kitchen (every third Saturday)
- Read Across America through United Way (March)
- Food/toiletry drive during Catholic Schools Week
- “Boxes of Joy” at Christmas
- Winter boot drive
- altar service, praise choir by the students in their respective parishes etc...

If you have any questions please contact to **Mrs. Haulotte** at shaulotte@saint-bemard.com or 860-848-1271 (x148).