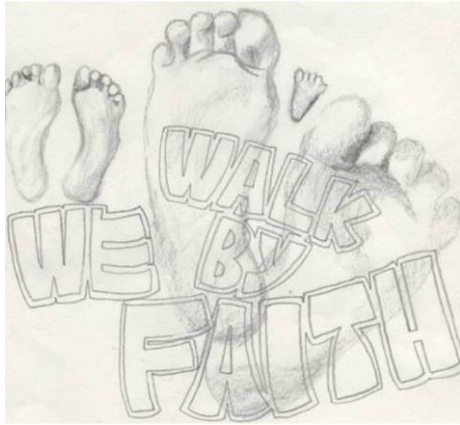


Mercy High School's Four-Year Retreat Program



"The Specific aim of catechesis is to develop, with God's help initial faith... and to nourish day by day the Christian life of the faithful..."
-St. Pope John Paul II on Catechesis in Our Time

Campus Ministry offers a four-year retreat program. We offer a different retreat for each grade level with the hope that after four years the students will have a better understanding of herself, her relationship with others, and most especially her relationship with God. The following is a brief summary of the retreats

Freshmen Retreat:

The entire freshman class joins together for a required retreat held on a full-day in August prior to the beginning of the Academic Year.. The girls experience several ways in which they can recognize their own God given gifts and talents Throughout day the freshmen have the opportunity to begin to look at how they might use their gifts and talents for the Greater Glory of God.



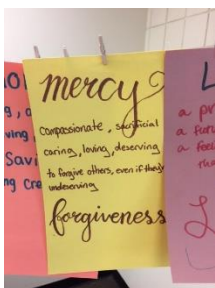
Sophomore Retreat:



Understanding why as Christians we are called to serve is the goal of Sophomore Retreat. The day begins with the sophomores getting to know one another better and talking about the service requirement here at Mercy. The rest of the day is filled with interacting with speakers with both local and international charity experience. Besides doing a collection or service project on this specific day, students discuss and discover the meaning of service. This retreat is held off campus at

Colombiere Retreat center in Clarkston.

Junior Retreat:

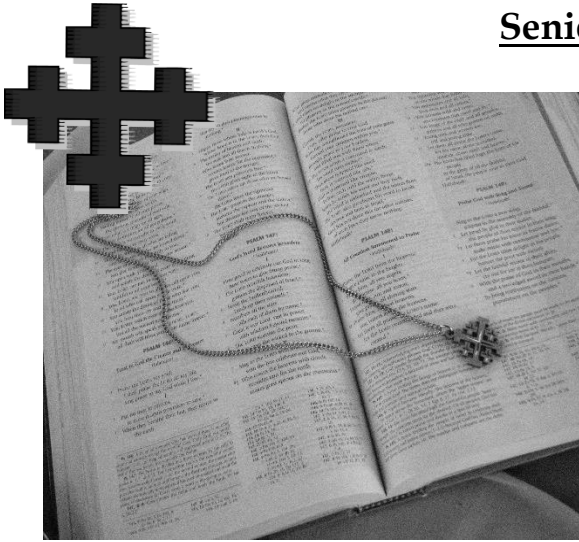


With the theme of *Finding God in All Things* the Juniors are called during this retreat to look at life through a different lens, a lens that focuses on God. They are called to look at the people places and things in their lives and examine how God is at work in each event. Whether the event is a good one or a bad one God is there to teach us and guide us. We explore different ways for the students to



find God. In themselves, their friends, their family, through prayer and even through silence. It all comes together through talks/presentations, large and small group discussions, silent reflection, speakers, creative art expression, silence, prayer and various other activities the students come to see God in each and in their own unique blend of abilities and talents. This retreat is offered once a year and is mandatory for all Juniors. This retreat is held off Campus at Colombiere Retreat in Clarkston, MI

Senior Retreat - Kairos



The culmination of the retreat program at Mercy is the KAIROS retreat that is offered three times a year. Over the three and a half day period the students have the opportunity to deepen their personal relationship with God in the person of Christ.

This process is done through prayer, reflecting on how God is at work in one's life experiences, small group discussion and the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist. This student led retreat offers an opportunity to deepen the students relationship with God and others.

Mercy holds their overnight retreats (Senior Kairos) at St. Paul of the Cross Retreat Center, 23333 Schoolcraft in Detroit, MI.

We want to thank you for taking the time to visit Mercy High School and the Campus Ministry Department. We hope you will consider the Mercy Experience for your daughter as we are very proud of our programs.

If you have any questions about the Campus Ministry Department at Mercy High School, please feel free to contact the team office to speak to one of the campus ministers.

Yours in Mercy,

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*We have one solid comfort amidst this little tripping about,
our hearts can always be in the same place,
centered in God, for whom alone we go forward or stay back.
Catherine McAuley*



Mercy High School

Additional Campus Ministry Offerings



Day to Day Spirituality:

Each day opens with prayer: Each day at Mercy High School begins with morning prayer that all students hear. This prayer is also broadcast to the Mercy parents, staff alumni and friends all over the world via e-mail, so we are praying together the same prayers each day. Each prayer is unique and chosen for the day and season some are even written by students and staff. The focus of prayer every Monday is the school mission statement accompanied by Catherine McAuley's Suscipe.

Baggot Street Series (2-4 times per year): Campus Ministry provides a sit down lunch banquet and guest speaker connected to themes of faith, justice and Sisters of Mercy critical concerns.



Critical Concerns Prayer Services: This year we are providing a prayer service connected to each of the sisters of Mercy Critical concerns and have timed them to correspond to international days (Earth Day, International day of nonviolence, Women's history month etc..)



Advent and Lent prayer opportunities including reconciliation service and adoration/holy hour

Prayer Labyrinth: An ancient contemplative walking prayer offered both inside and outside.

Reconciliation and other Prayer Service Opportunities:

During Advent and Lent we have several opportunities for our students to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation, through various penitential prayer services. We also offer specialized prayer services for needs of the world and current local and global situations needing fervent prayer.

Therapy Dog Days: We offer these days a couple times during the year to offer emotional support for our students.

OutReach - Food and Various other Drives:

We traditionally partner with FocusHope of Detroit in the Fall for our annual Food Collection for the seniors in the Detroit Area. We also run drives at Christmas and other times during the year for various other Charitable Local Organizations.



Rosary: Offered before school during October (World Rosary Month)

Liturgical Celebrations:



Liturgy of the Eucharist is an important part of life at Mercy High School. Most significant school events, Catholic Holy Days and other special Mercy celebrations are marked by all school celebrations of the Eucharist. Students are invited to participate as Ministers of the Eucharist, lector, ushers, cantors etc.

Service and Justice:



Students at Mercy High School must complete 40 hours of service in the community as a condition of graduation. Many students go on to complete well over 100 hours. With the assistance of ministry staff most students find service opportunities that fit their schedule and geographical location. Mercy High School organizes a *Make a Difference Day*. On this day all students and staff serve together at various organizations in the greater Detroit Metropolitan area. Likewise, the Mercy Campus Ministry staff organize week-long small group Service Immersion experiences for both spring break and summer break.

Youth Mercy Associates

The Youth Mercy Associate Chapters provide a link between young people and the Mercy Congregation (the Sisters of Mercy). YMA USA Charter Chapter established here, in Farmington Hills, in December of 2012.

We hope to set up cross community/country lines.

The Youth Mercy Associates wish to follow in the footsteps of Jesus ...

- by upholding Catherine McAuley's vision of faith, joy and mercy.
- by doing service, praying, reflecting and sharing together.
- by letting God's light shine through the sharing of their/our gifts and talents with others.
- Working with the adult Mercy Associates and Sisters in Addressing the Critical Concerns;
 - Women's Issues, Care for the Earth, Non-Violence, Racism and , Immigration

