

Dear Parents of the Class of 2017,

Welcome to a new year! This year your daughter will be participating in the next level of Mercy's four year Retreat Program. Last year, the students attended a retreat that challenged them to see how God blessed each of them with gifts and talents and how each is called to use them to make a difference in the world. Now that your daughter is a sophomore, we will continue to challenge her to be God's hands by caring for others. We realize that there are many outside influences that can affect their lives. This year's retreat theme will center on providing ways for your daughter to see that God is calling her because of the great love God has for her to share that love with others. **This retreat is mandatory for all sophomores and will take place on Mercy's Campus in April.** The retreat fee covers the cost of this retreat.

The two dates for this year's retreat experience will be April 29 and April 30. Your daughter will be scheduled for one of these two dates and will receive more details second semester when the retreat is near. The retreat experience runs from 3rd to 7th hours at Mercy. The students are asked to bring a bag lunch on the day of the retreat. Your daughter will receive all the necessary details in February next semester.

Mercy is excited to have NET Ministries return this year. This is an organization that has been providing retreats for young people for over thirty years. NET Ministries have 10-12 teams consisting of 12 young adults from across the country who travel together and facilitate retreat experiences for youth. This team has been expertly trained and has the approval of the Archdiocese and credentials to minister in the Detroit diocese. The young adults range from 18-26 years of age and have given a year of their life without pay to perform this ministry. The day consists of high-energy, great music, funny skits, inspiring dramas, uplifting prayer and witness that will challenge your daughter. This retreat has been an overwhelming success last year and we are happy to bring NET back for a third year.

We are pleased to partner with you as we support and encourage your daughter to become involved in the many opportunities we provide for her to live out the Mercy Values of Justice, Service, and Option for the Poor, Mercy, and Human Dignity. Have a safe and blessed year.

Sincerely,

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