August 29, 2021

Dear Parents:

I am pleased to announce a very special opportunity for our eighth-grade class. In keeping with our mission of providing exceptional spiritual and academic programs for our students, we have created an optional overnight retreat experience for them. We hope that this retreat will be an additional component of their faith development within the St. Patrick Community. This year the entire class has the opportunity to attend the retreat together.

This retreat will be led by the National Evangelization Teams (NET) Ministries. Our retreat team is made up of 12 young Catholic missionaries aged 18-28 who travel across the U.S. to share the Gospel with young people. Their mission is to challenge other young Catholics to love Christ and embrace the life of the Church. Since 1981, NET teams have led over 34,000 retreats and ministered to more than 2.1 million young Catholics.

NET Ministries fulfills its mission by:

* Proclaiming the Gospel of Christ through a personal witness of faith
* Inviting young people to live for Christ
* Forming young people in Christian character through the study and practice of their faith

Members of the faculty and school/parish leadership will be present. The retreat will be held at Mount St. Francis in Indiana. The 8th Grade retreat is scheduled for September 22 and 23. Students will leave school after an early lunch on Wednesday and return by 3:00 p.m. on Thursday. The cost to participate is $135 and includes food, accommodations, facilitator fee, and transportation. Please arrange for pick up for your student on Thursday. We can not guarantee that we will be back before the bus leaves the school.

If you would like your 8th-grade student to be a part of this faith experience, please go to the Youth Ministry Website to register and pay online. The deadline to register is **September 8, 2021.** You can find the youth ministry website at **www.stpatlou.org.**

A few parents are needed to help transport luggage to the retreat. If available to help with luggage, please contact me at your convenience.

For additional questions or more information, please contact Jonna in the youth office at [jobryan@stpatlou.org](mailto:jobryan@stpatlou.org) or 244-6083, ext 102.

Peace,

Jonna O’Bryan

**Director of Youth Ministry**