

# Sophomore Retreat

## Overview

In keeping with the theme of **sacramentality** in the sophomore religion course, *Faith and Sacraments*, the Campus Ministry Department is pleased to provide the Class of 2021 with a variety and depth of offerings from which to select their retreat this year.

### Important Notes:

- There is limited space per retreat program – so please read through and consider your options carefully.
  - Once registration opens on August 23rd at 8:00pm- spaces will be filled on a first-come / first-served basis. You must register by August 30<sup>th</sup> at 3pm. Fail to do so may result in a JUG.
  - You can access the registration by going to: [www.stxavier.org/sophomore18-19](http://www.stxavier.org/sophomore18-19)
  - If your initial choice is full, you must register for another choice. All options have something of value to offer.
  - Once you have registered – any change in retreat date or the type of retreat you wish to attend will require a payment of \$10 to process the change – so PLEASE CHOOSE WISELY! If you drop close to the date of your scheduled retreat and your spot cannot be filled, the charge will be \$25.
  - ALL SOPHOMORE STUDENTS MUST REGISTER FOR ONE OF THE OPTIONS TO FULFILL THEIR RETREAT.
  - If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Campus Ministry Office.
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## Retreat Options (13 total):

### **Superhero's Journey – A Biking Retreat**

**Date - September 9-10**

**Description** - This overnight camping retreat that begins on the Little Miami Bike Trail near Springfield, Ohio and ends in the Newtown/Mariemont area connects the physical challenge of an extended bike ride with the challenges faced in daily life spelled out more specifically in Joseph Campbell's concept the Hero's Journey and our Christian call to the Paschal Mystery.

**Number of Participants - 24**

**Basic Qualifications**

- Must arrange for transportation to Springfield on the first day and pick-up in Newtown/Mariemont on the second day.
- Must be physically-fit enough to ride about 75 miles over the course of two days
- Must have a bike suitable for a ride of this length
- Basic camp equipment: tent, sleeping bag, etc
- Must be open to spiritual growth

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### **Wildman Walking Retreat**

**Date – September 20**

**Description** – This retreat will take place during the school day. It will follow a 6 -7 mile trail along the Little Miami River with some breaks to discuss the movement of the spirit in our lives. The variation in

landscape should provide a spectacular background throughout the hike. Participants should be in good shape as the walk includes a few steep hills.

**Number of Participants – 36**

### **Fishers of People – A Fishing Retreat**

**Date – September 30-October 1**

**Description** – "Come, follow me, and I will send you out to fish for people." (Matthew 4:19) Using the sport of fishing as a vehicle, this retreat will help students recognize their gifts and talents and hone their skills for bringing others to Christ. This retreat will involve outdoor activities, namely fishing and camping. No experience is required, but the students will be asked to bring/share some basic equipment to this end. An additional fee may be required to cover the cost of a state fishing license.

**Number of Participants - 21**

### **Zoo Photography Safari Retreat**

**Date – October 16**

**Description** – On the photography retreat students will be invited to embrace the awesome mystery of life by developing a sacramental awareness that believes "there is always more than meets the eye." Through photographing nature and animals, students will be challenged to embrace the awe and mystery of life that is always something much bigger than ourselves. Students will be asked to share their work upon return to St. Xavier.

**Number of Participants - 40**

### **Challenge, Choice, Community—Ropes/Climbing Wall Retreat**

**Date – October 25**

**Description** – Growth in the Christian faith involves challenges, choices and community. This retreat will experientially challenge students to make choices that will allow them to climb a 40 ft. climbing wall, 40 4ft. cargo netting tower, and or complete a set of ropes course with the help of their community. Participants will be led to a deeper investigation of how these choices are similar to choices we make to achieve a more meaningful Christian life. Students must be willing to climb or work on a high ropes course.

**Number of Participants - 36**

### **The Urban Experience Retreat**

**Date – November 9**

**Description** – This experience will take place during the school day, and offer participants an opportunity to learn more about a community right in their own backyard. We will team up with St. Vincent DePaul and the Drop Inn Center, as we explore the life of this vibrant and historical community along with issues it faces today all within the context of prayerful reflection.

**Number of Participants – 30**

### **Signs of the Times Retreat**

**Date – November 9**

**Description** – Students will tour the American Sign Museum in Camp Washington and make parallels between the historical meaning of these vintage markers and the meaning of the signs and markers in their life journey. The Second Vatican Council asked the faithful to examine the "signs of the times."

Retreatants will examine the "signs of the times" as it pertains to their faith experience.

**Number of Participants – 30**

## **Voices and Visionaries Retreat**

**Date – January 30**

**Description** – This retreat will take place during the school day. Students will network with a local organization which supports and encourages people with disabilities to explore their artistic creativity. You will learn from one of the students who has gone through the program and encounter the person of Christ through this interaction.

**Number of Participants – 24**

## **Knightwatch**

**Date - February 17-18**

**Description** - This overnight retreat will combine the following themes: Challenge, Gifts, and Belonging. Your aspiration to further explore these themes through this retreat demonstrates your sincere desire to grow spiritually. Knightwatch requires a genuine level of maturity, especially as you prepare for the hallmark meditative experience of Knightwatch: the Labyrinth!

**Number of Participants – 30**

## **Labyrinth Retreat**

**Date – March 1**

**Description** – This retreat will take place during the school day. It will be led by a team of Junior and Senior students, and offer the opportunity to take a step back from the daily rhythms of life and perhaps even listen for what God is trying to say to us. The retreat will include time for private prayer – and offer everyone the opportunity to walk the Labyrinth.

**Number of Participants – 30**

## **Awesome Mystery of Life Photography Retreat**

**Date – April 5**

**Description** – On the photography retreat students will be invited to embrace the awesome mystery of life by developing a sacramental awareness that believes "there is always more than meets the eye." Through photographing nature and animals, students will be challenged to embrace the awe and mystery of life that is always something much bigger than ourselves. Students will be asked to share their work upon return to St. Xavier.

**Number of Participants – 40**

## **Hero's Journey - Biking Retreat**

**Date – April 28-29**

**Description** - This overnight camping retreat that is conducted on the Little Miami Bike Trail connects the physical challenge of an extended bike ride with the challenges faced in daily life spelled out more specifically in Joseph Campbell's concept: The Hero's Journey and our Christian invitation into the Paschal Mystery.

**Number of Participants—24**

### **Basic Qualifications**

- Must arrange transportation to beginning point of the ride (Xenia) and ending point (Newtown/Mariemont)
- Must be physically-fit enough to ride about 50 miles over the course of two days
- Must have a bike suitable for a ride of this length
- Basic camp equipment: tent, sleeping bag, etc
- Must be open to spiritual growth

## **Lewis & Clark - Canoeing/Hiking Retreat**

**Date – May 5-6**

**Description - Number of Participants – 24**

**Basic Qualifications** - This retreat is an overnight that combines the physical challenges of canoeing with hiking and camping in a primitive backcountry campsite. This retreat, like the biking one, connects with the challenge spelled out more specifically in Joseph Campbell's concept: The Hero's Journey and our Christian invitation into the Paschal Mystery.

- Must be physically-fit enough to paddle 6 miles and hike 3-4 miles
- Must desire primitive-type camping (pit toilet, etc.)
- Basic camp equipment: tent, sleeping bag, backpack etc.
- Must be open to spiritual growth