

## **SPIRITUAL FORMATION**

A primary goal of Providence Junior-Senior High School is to enable our students to integrate their faith into their daily lives. As a Catholic school, we offer a variety of experiences to nurture our students' relationship with God and to strengthen their relationship with the Church. For students of other faiths, our spiritual formation program introduces them to the tenets of the Catholic Church and provides them opportunities to enrich their own Christian heritage. We encourage our students to participate in their own parishes and youth programs.

### **Liturgies, Sacraments, and Prayer Experiences**

Mass or communion service is celebrated every day before school in the chapel beginning at 7:30. All faculty, staff, and students may attend. In addition, we offer school liturgies throughout the year. These liturgies are planned by a committee of students with our Campus Minister and Chaplain and reflect an appreciation and understanding of ministering to youth. All students, faculty, and staff members attend the school liturgies in order to strengthen the spirituality of our school community. Our students serve as Eucharistic Ministers, Music Ministers, Lectors, servers, and Ushers at these Masses.

Other sacramental and prayer experiences include the offering of the Sacrament of Reconciliation once a week during lunch, during the Advent and Lent seasons, and on junior and senior retreats. Other prayer experiences offered throughout the year include individual class Liturgies, special all-school prayer services, prayer services through their Theology classes, monthly Eucharistic Adoration, and daily student-led prayers during homeroom.

### **Campus Ministry**

Besides being responsible for our Liturgies, Sacraments, and other prayer experiences, our Campus Ministry program provides opportunities for spiritual renewal through our junior high days of reflection and senior high four-year retreat program. Our Junior High, Freshmen, and Sophomores have an opportunity to attend one-day retreats; Juniors attend a two-day retreat, and Seniors have a three-day retreat. Through the peer ministry program, students serve as team leaders on Providence retreats.

Our Service Learning program falls under the guidance of Campus Ministry. As an expression of the Providence Jr.-Sr. High School mission, we believe it is essential that students demonstrate their Christian faith by providing a direct and visible response to Archbishop Buechlein's call for a "greater emphasis on spiritual renewal, evangelization and stewardship" in his Journey for Hope 2001 program. Our hope is that Providence graduates will take their place in the community and contribute a Christian influence on society. We believe that our students should be exposed to the diverse population of the local area and witness first-hand the trials of those less fortunate physically, mentally, and economically. Within this spirit, all students must complete a 60-hour service requirement for graduation. Please see the service learning portion of this handbook for more information on this program.

### **Theology Classes**

Providence Junior-Senior High School requires that all students take Theology classes for all years in which they attend. Starting in the junior high and continuing throughout the four years of senior high, our students learn about their personal faith and the Catholic Church. They deepen their relationship with God through the study of scripture and develop a greater awareness of moral decision-making, social justice, and Christian living.