

FAQs

What is a retreat?

A retreat is an opportunity to take some quiet time away from the busyness of life to prayerfully reflect on some of life's important issues, to share thoughts, challenges, joys, and hopes with others, and to develop new friendships. People of all faith traditions or no faith tradition are welcome! Retreats involve talks, small group sharing, community building activities, games, and time alone to reflect.

Why should my child go on a retreat?

A retreat is an opportunity to grow in relationship with God, others, and oneself. Life at Bellarmine moves fast, and students need an opportunity to slow down and reflect on their lives. A retreat is an excellent place for a person to learn new things about themselves and their life's journey. On retreat, students will have an opportunity to rest, be in nature, connect with friends, play games, and listen to God's voice as it speaks to their hearts. Retreats are fun experiences, but they are also essential in helping students discover who they are and the person they are called to be.

Do students have to be Catholic to attend a retreat?

Students do not need to be Catholic to attend a retreat. In fact, our retreats are made richer with the participation of students from other faith backgrounds and those who come from no particular faith tradition. Our retreats are rooted in a Jesuit Catholic spirituality, but our retreats do not seek to tell a person what to believe. Ignatian spirituality posits that God speaks uniquely to each person in the depths of their heart. In this way, a retreat is an opportunity to listen to the Sacred which each person experiences in a unique fashion.

Are retreats required?

No, a retreat is an optional experience, however, they are a pinnacle Bellarmine experience that should not be missed. The path to becoming a "man for and with others" necessitates slowing down, taking time to pray, connecting with others, and reflecting on one's own spiritual path. In this way, retreats are an essential step in forming the Bellarmine student.

Will my child be penalized for missing class?

No, our school community wants students to participate in retreats. In fact, students are entitled to a one class grace period for each class that is missed due to retreat. Learn more about the Missed Work Grace Policy [here](#).

Do I need to provide my student transportation?

No. For off-campus retreats, BCP provides transportation to and from the retreat center.

How much does it cost?

The cost of each retreat varies based on the duration, meals, and location that corresponds to the particular retreat. Students on Tuition assistance will receive an adjustment to the retreat cost.

How do I register?

Go to our [CM retreat landing page](#) and find a retreat that correlates to your student's class level and interest!