

What is Kairos?

Love of God and love of neighbor drive the Kairos Retreat Program at Saint Ignatius College Prep. Focused on the visible love of God in the person of Jesus, Kairos leaders and participants retreat for four days to examine their lives, their relationships, and their faith in the context of a Christian community.

Thousands of high school students around the country make the Kairos retreat during their senior year. At Saint Ignatius, Kairos is a voluntary retreat program sponsored by the Department of Formation and Ministry. All seniors are invited and welcome to attend Kairos, but you must register through the Formation and Ministry office to reserve a position on the retreat. The Principals' or Deans' Offices may recommend that some students wait for the weekend Kairos in February because of grades or absences.

Kairos is very different from other Saint Ignatius retreats. Kairos is a more serious retreat that includes a significant amount of silent prayer time. Student leaders prepare for weeks to lead their peers in the prayer, presentations, discussions and activities that make up the Kairos program. Students must be willing to take and follow direction from their senior peer leaders. Kairos retreatants should also be willing to meet new people in their small groups and be open to new experiences and activities on the retreat.

Students are provided bus transportation to and from the retreat, meals, and individual rooms with linen and towels.

Kairos retreatants are charged \$250.00 for the retreat. Financial aid is available. If you already receive assistance for tuition, your retreat charge will be covered and you need not do anything. However, all families are eligible to apply for assistance for Formation and Ministry programming such as retreats and service projects. When doing so, the following must be strictly adhered to:

A parent or guardian must submit in writing the amount of aid being requested and the purpose for the aid. All requests must be directed to Mr. James Luzzi. **Only** written requests from parents/guardians will be considered. Additional information may be requested after preliminary review.

To reserve your position on Kairos, complete this registration form and return it to the Department of Formation and Ministry. See Mrs. McArdle if you have any questions.

What is Oramus, We Pray?

Unless we learn to listen in silence, we shall have nothing to say that is worth saying. Our lives are so cluttered with words that we no longer know how to handle silence. For our society, silence is simply a fruitless pause between words rather than a creative moment out of which deep and authentic words may emerge. If our life is poured out in useless words, we will never hear anything, will never become anything, and in the end, because we have said everything before we had anything to say, we shall be left speechless.

-Thomas Merton

The Oramus retreat is an alternative retreat offered to senior Saint Ignatius students not interested in attending the Kairos retreat. It is a three day, two night, optional experience at the New Melleray Abbey in Peosta, Iowa. The retreat includes significant periods of silent contemplation, meeting three times with a spiritual director, and participating in liturgy with the Cistercian (Trappist) monks at New Melleray.

The retreat this year is open this year to 14 students. We will travel the approximately three hour trip in two vans, departing from Saint Ignatius at 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, October 27. We will return to Saint Ignatius by 5:00 p.m., Friday, October 29. Three Saint Ignatius chaperones will accompany the group.

All school rules and expectations apply for participants. Additionally, participating students will have to demonstrate a willingness to engage fully in the retreat, including the periods of silent contemplation. One mandatory informational meeting (held after school from 3 – 4:30 pm) will precede the retreat on a date to be determined. Cost for the retreat is \$225.00, and financial aid is available through school aid procedures administered by Mr. Luzzi described on the left.

For more information, please see Mr. Couture or Mrs. McArdle in Formation and Ministry. To inquire further about the New Melleray Abbey, visit:

**New Melleray Abbey
6632 Melleray Circle
Peosta, Iowa, 52068
(<http://www.newmelleray.org>).**

Senior Retreat Registration

Due Friday, August 27, 2010

Assignments will be confirmed in writing after administrative approval.
Please be certain to drop this form off to Mrs. McArdle or Ms. Trinley ONLY.

Student Name _____HR_____

Student Phone _____

Mother's Name _____

Mother's Email _____ *Is this email shared with student?* _____

Home Address _____

Home Phone _____Work/Cell_____

Father's Name _____

Father's Email _____ *Is this email shared with student?* _____

Home Address _____

Home Phone _____Work/Cell_____

Student E-mail _____ *Is this email shared with parents?* _____

Please rank (#1 – 5) in order of preference and availability. If unavailable, write “no” and include the reason (e.g. athletic, co-curricular, family, other obligations). **Remember that participation in two or more non-required school-sponsored events that conflict with class time within 20 days will be subject to administrative approval.**

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| _____ Kairos 117 | September 21 - 24, 2010 | _____ Kairos 119 | February 17 – 20, 2011 (weekend) |
| _____ Oramus | October 27 – 29, 2010 | _____ Kairos 120 | March 29 – April 1, 2011 |
| _____ Kairos 118 | November 16 - 19, 2010 | | |