



CONFIRMATION RETREAT

FAQ's by Students	Answers...
When is the retreat?	Saturday & Sunday, November 10 th & 11 th
Where is the retreat?	It's at the Marelllo Youth Retreat Center in Loomis – up by Sierra College in Rocklin.
When do I need to be there?	The check-in for the retreat is from 8:30 – 9:00 am. Yup...it's early, so get a good night sleep before!
How do I get there?	Your parents are going to drive you to the retreat center and check you in, then they will drive back on Sunday to join us for Mass at the end of our retreat.
What do I need to bring?	Well, a sleeping bag and pillow would be helpful for sleeping over at the retreat center. Also, a change of clothes for Sunday, toothbrush and deodorant would be GREAT too! Your parents have a list of things for you to bring and NOT to bring in the retreat information packet. If they can't find that packet, it's available on the parish website's Confirmation Page. Make sure you read through the list thoroughly! And HEY, the theme of our retreat is "Super Disciples", so if you have a favorite superhero t-shirt, cape, or sweatshirt, etc., BRING IT! It might come in handy for the skit!
Why do we have to go on a retreat?	It's important at this point in your Confirmation Preparation journey to take a step away from the distractions of everyday life and allow yourself an opportunity to relax and evaluate where you are on your faith journey. A lot of times it's hard to just focus on our relationship with God because of all of the distractions of school, home, extra-curriculers. We're always running around and getting things done. This retreat is a time to put that all aside and just be present with God and work on your relationship with Him.

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<p>What are we going to do at the retreat?</p>	<p>Our retreat will be led by Fr. Sergio and the other priests and brothers at the Mareello Youth Retreat Center. We will play games, hear some presentations by the priests and brothers (and maybe seminarians if they are there that weekend), spend time with our small groups discussing the talks, have some yummy food, spend time in prayer, receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation (yes, we will be doing Confession but don't worry – we'll walk you through it again if it's been a (long) while since you've done Reconciliation), spend time with friends, participate in Eucharistic Adoration, and share Mass with our families at the end of the weekend.</p>
<p>What do I need to do to get ready for retreat?</p>	<p>First...prepare yourself by giving yourself a little pep talk. Remind yourself that this isn't going to be a "ho hum" dreary weekend. It's going to be a weekend where we get to spend time together with our friends, Core Team, and most importantly...GOD! We'll laugh, we'll be silly, and we might also have times where we get a bit emotional (good emotions, but emotional none the less). Come Saturday morning with a smile on your face, and a willingness to let God "speak" to you this weekend. And come ready to "speak" to God! The presentations and the activities we do are going to be really impactful and will probably prompt you to have some great personal time with God – THAT'S AWESOME! GO WITH THAT! Most importantly, just come with an open mind AND an open heart! Let God do the rest!</p>
<p>You said that we will do Confessions at Retreat, but what if it's been a long time since I've done Confession and I don't remember how.</p>	<p>First, take a deep breath and know that it's going to be okay. The priests are amazing and understanding and they've had literally thousands of kids who have gone on retreat there who are in the same position. They are patient and they will help walk you through all of the steps AND we have a pamphlet aid that tells you exactly what to do and how to pray the prayers. Everyone who has gone to retreat before you has survived AND they've all said that they were so glad that they got to do Confession there at Retreat.</p>
<p>Is there anything else I need to know about the Retreat?</p>	<p>Nothing other than it's going to be a great weekend...if you let yourself be open to the experience! We have to keep some surprises, so we don't want to spill all of the beans to you. Just know that your Core Team will be there to share the weekend with you and you'll be with your friends and faith family, so it's going to be a great weekend!</p>

God Bless!