

**Immersion Trip
Rostro de Cristo
Consuelo, Dominican Republic
May 17-23, 2025**



For many years Saint John Paul II School offered an opportunity to travel to Ecuador to participate in the Rostro de Cristo Immersion Retreat program. Sadly, political and social realities in that country have made it impossible to continue that experience for our students at this time. We now can offer the Rostro de Cristo experience in a new location, Consuelo in the Dominican Republic.

Rostro de Cristo offers transformative intercultural experiences living the Gospel in solidarity with the marginalized. In this new experience Rostro de Cristo partners with the Scalabrian Sisters, an Italian missionary order who have been working in the DR for many years. The sisters sponsor a program called ASCALA, which provides educational and social services to marginalized populations of Haitian immigrants living in communities on the outskirts of Consuelo. Our students will have the opportunity to share in the work of ASCALA in schools and community settings. The students will learn of the realities of life in these impoverished communities.

Accommodations will be in the sisters' compound in dormitory style housing with running water and electricity. Food will be prepared by the group and meals will be served in a community setting. Local transportation will be provided by Rostro de Cristo vehicles.

This opportunity will be offered to ten seniors and juniors this year. Seniors will get the first opportunity to sign up and remaining spots will be offered to juniors. Spanish is not a requirement for this trip, but it certainly helps. All seniors and juniors are invited to apply. If more than ten students apply, a lottery will be conducted to fill the roster of travelers.

An interest meeting will be held for students and their families on Thursday, January 30 at 6:00 pm in the Academic Resource Center at the high school.

The estimated cost is \$1800. Students who wish to participate must hand in an interest form and a \$100 deposit by February 12.

Any questions or concerns can be directed to Ms McPherson (cmcpherson@jpiihyannis.org) or Mr Lynch (alynch@jpiihyannis.org).