

**Immersion Trip
Rostro de Cristo
Consuelo, Dominican Republic
May 16-23, 2026**



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 nine seniors and juniors this year. Seniors will get the first opportunity to sign up and the 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 nine 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 Tuesday, March 24 at 6:00 pm in the Academic Resource Center at the high school.

The estimated cost is \$1950. Students who wish to participate must hand in an interest form (last page of this handout) and a \$100 deposit by Friday, March 27.

Any questions or concerns can be directed to Ms. McPherson (mcpherson@jpiihyannis.org) or Mr. Rohrer (crohrer@jpiihyannis.org).

Rostro de Cristo

Mission

To inspire a lifelong commitment to a faith that works for justice through transformative, intercultural experiences living the Gospel of Christ in solidarity with marginalized communities.

Core Values

We ground ourselves in these **core values**: shared experience of faith, serving in solidarity with those on the margins, mutuality, build intercultural community, living simply, and hospitality.

We believe in a faith which is transformative and hopeful, which celebrates the unity and diversity of God's creation. We desire to see Christ in each person and to communicate Christ's love through our actions and words. We are grounded by our Catholic faith which calls us to a radical openness to and trust in God's unconditional love and mercy for all.

We recognize the dignity of every person and the diversity of the human family. We commit to fostering interpersonal relationships of mutual appreciation, respect, and accountability. We do this by honoring each individual's unique identities, inclusive of their gender, ethnicity, race, religion, sexual orientation, and status, as we open ourselves to learning from them and sharing ourselves authentically in return.

We prioritize authentic relationships with God and others. We recognize the limits of our common home, and act to end the unjust distribution of wealth and opportunity.

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We choose to live in economically impoverished communities, to enter into these communities with humility and partner with local efforts that respond to their basic needs and seek to understand the causes of the injustices in which they live.

We commit to living in an intentional Christian community supporting each other's spiritual and personal growth with love, acceptance, and understanding; and sharing resources to ensure that each person has what they need to thrive.

We believe that opening our hearts and homes to others is an opportunity to receive God's blessings and to share Christ's love.



Mission:

Provide services to defend human rights and promote human and social development for vulnerable migrants.

VISION

Be a distinguished institution that mentors and promotes individuals, constructed from a society that participates in the promotion of human rights.

VALUES

- Hospitality
- Ethics
- Citizenship and promotion of rights
- Universality
- Justice

Inter-sectional Focuses

- Defense and promotion of Human rights
- Human development
- Social and Environmental Responsibility

Areas of Action

- Legal Assistance
- Entrepreneurship
- Education
- Social Services
- Hospitality

Saint John Paul II School
Rostro de Cristo Inmersión - Dominican Republic
Interest Form

Student's Name _____

Grade Level _____

Student's email address _____

Student's cell phone number _____

Guardian's email address _____

Guardian's cell phone number _____

Please note the following:

The dates of this trip are **May 16-23, 2026.**

The estimated cost is \$1,950.

Families assume the cost of the trip. Students may set up their own fundraising efforts to defray their expenses. Families will be billed through the school's FACTs account.

Students who participate in this trip agree to abide by all school rules and the directives of the chaperones and the Rostro de Cristo program during this time.

Do you have a passport? _____ Passport number _____

We indicate our interest in our student participating in this program by completing this form and attaching a deposit of \$100. Check made out to Saint John Paul II School. "Immersion Trip" on memo line.

Parent signature _____

Please print name here _____

Student signature _____