



St. Cletus - Brother David Darst Center
Overnight Urban Immersion/Social Justice Retreat
www.brdauidarstcenter.org

St. Cletus Youth Ministry will be having an overnight retreat at the Brother David Darst Center, 2834 S. Normal Chicago, 60616 (Bridgeport community) focusing on urban service and Catholic Social Teaching. We will spend time in discussion, reflection, and prayer. While we are there, we will be traveling to one or two service sites to help others. Some possibilities include a food pantry, shelter, children's center, or soup kitchen. We may be taking public transportation or driving with a chaperone, depending on our numbers. Please read attached brochure and look at the center's website.

Friday January 27, 2012 – We will meet at St. Cletus in room 201 at 3:30pm.
Saturday January 28, 2012 – We will leave the center at approximately 2:30pm and will return to St. Cletus about 3:15pm.

Dinner will be provided on Friday evening. Breakfast and lunch will be given on Saturday. Teens only need to bring clothing and toiletries. We sleep at the retreat center. They have towels and bedding. Teens should wear weather appropriate coats, hats, etc. as we may be taking public transportation or walking outside.

Parent chaperones are needed.

Cost for the retreat is \$75 and can be made payable to St. Cletus. Permission slips and fees are due January 3rd. Please contact Kristen Maxwell at (708) 215-5419 or kmaxwell@stcletusparish.com with any questions.



(Completion of the Participant Contract is required for the Br. David Darst Center Retreat)

PARTICIPANT CONTRACT

I am fully aware that the experience at the Darst Center will require me to make personal sacrifices of which I may not be accustomed. I agree to live this experience in simplicity, doing without some of the conveniences to which I am accustomed. I will work and complete tasks to the best of my ability.

I realize that living and working together in community will require me to display patience and respect toward all members of the group. I realize the importance of following a schedule and the guidance and instruction of the leaders. I am willing to comply with the requests of the leadership and be flexible with what is asked of me.

I am aware that the experience may involve a focus on prayer based on the Catholic tradition. I am open to this experience and will actively participate to the degree which I am able.

I further realize that I will be visiting areas where the culture and the customs may differ from my own. I will treat all people I meet with respect.

I agree not to involve myself in any illegal activity while at the Darst Center.

I give consent for the Darst Center to videotape and photograph me during my retreat. I understand these photographs and videotapes may be used for advertising and/or orientation materials for the Darst Center including the Center's website. I give my permission for possible participation in videotaping and/or still photographs.

I agree to hold harmless the Br. David Darst Center and any/all employees from any and all injury or liability that may occur while on site at the Darst Center or while participating in activities associated with the group's retreat offered by the Darst Center.

I dedicate myself to be an active participant in this experience of service, education, prayer, simplicity, and community as an experience of living justice.

Signed _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian Signature if under 18 _____

Student Name (print) _____ Email _____

Address (permanent) _____
_____ Phone _____

Address (current) _____
_____ Phone _____

School _____ Home Parish/Church _____

Class: High School: FR SO JR SR College: FR SO JR SR Age _____

Other info. we should know ahead of time like food allergies, work capabilities etc.: _____

Have you ever been to the Darst Center before? Y N If so, When?

**St. Cletus/Brother David Darst Center www.brdauiddarstcenter.org
2834 S. Normal
Chicago, IL 60616
(312) 225-3099
Parental Permission/Release Form**

I/We, _____, the Parent(s)/

Guardian(s) give my child _____ permission to participate in the St. Cletus Brother David Darst Center Overnight Service Retreat January 27-28, 2012. I/We understand that the group will be traveling with chaperones to and from the center and may be using either chaperone's vehicles or public transportation to travel to service sites during that time. In giving my permission, I hereby agree to RELEASE, INDEMNIFY AND HOLD HARMLESS St. Cletus Parish, their employees and agents, the Archdiocese of Chicago and the Catholic Bishop of Chicago, (a Corporate Sole) from ANY AND ALL LIABILITY WHICH MAY ARISE FROM MY CHILD'S PARTICIPATION IN THE ABOVE MENTIONED EVENT. Liability to extend to any accidents, illnesses or injuries (including the possibility of death) which may either directly or indirectly befall my child while participating in the above mentioned event.

In the event that a medical emergency shall befall my child during the time period of January 27-28, 2012, I now provide the responsible adults accompanying this group, or other appropriate staff member the acting Power of Attorney, to initiate and oversee any emergency care that may be deemed necessary on my child's behalf, until a time when I may be present to authorize the same. To assist in the administration of such care, I now provide insurance and medical information which may be necessary:

Insurance Co. _____ Policy # _____

Policy in name of _____

Allergies/Specific Medical Conditions _____

Please list all prescription drugs that will need to taken during this trip. Please indicate whether or not your child can administer the medication him/herself or if an adult is needed.

I grant permission for the adult chaperones for this event to administer non-prescription drugs as needed for my teen (aspirin, ibuprofen, antacids, etc.) ___ Yes ___ No

I authorize St. Cletus Parish to use photographs/videos of my child for productions, publications, etc. ___ Yes ___ No

By placing my signature, I hereby attest that I have read, understand and agree to ALL of the above provisions. Additionally, I have enclosed my \$75 fee.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Home Phone: _____ Parent Cell Phone(s): _____

Address _____

Email: _____

Your stay includes...

The Brother David Darst Center welcomes guests for day-long, weekend, week-long, or more extended stays. With accommodations for up to 27 people, meeting space, a peaceful chapel and relaxed common space, the Center provides an ideal environment for youth to experience and contemplate. Towels and bedding are provided for all guests and groups generally cook their own meals in our kitchen facilities..



Here's what young people are saying...

"I learned a lot and loved every service opportunity we had that gave us a chance to interact with other people. What you do here is incredible and I hope to have a similar career in the future." - EV, Senior, Benet Academy

"I really learned a lot about myself and others in the community around me. Going outside my boundaries in Chicago has really helped me feel more comfortable around people who are of a different race or live a different lifestyle than I do." - JH, Senior, Skutt High School

**Ideal for Confirmation Retreats,
Youth Ministry Activities,
Campus Service Groups,
Alternative Spring Breaks
Social Justice Class trips...**

BR. DAVID DARST CENTER

2834 S Normal Ave
Chicago, IL 60616

Phone: 312-225-3099

Fax: 312-842-4178

E-mail: darst-center@sbcglobal.net

www.brdauiddarstcenter.org

BR. DAVID DARST CENTER

FOR
JUSTICE
&
PEACE
•
SPIRITUALITY
&
EDUCATION

The Brother David Darst Center provides an engaging, safe, and reflective environment in which participants of all ages can be introduced to and explore issues of social justice through a personal experience. Our goal is to invite a genuine conversion of lifestyle by raising awareness, challenging perceptions, and encouraging behavioral change that reflects the Christian social teachings of peace, justice and appreciation of the dignity and value of every person.



Phone: 312-225-3099

Reaching for the Margins

The Brother David Darst Center for Justice & Peace, Spirituality & Education is a retreat center located on the south side of Chicago, bordering the Chinatown and Bridgeport neighborhoods. Founded in 2002 as a ministry of the De LaSalle Christian Brothers, the Darst Center is unique in providing opportunities for youth and young adults to see more clearly the faces pushed to the margins of our society. In addition to gaining greater awareness of others, participating youth and young adults are challenged to respond to the many needs of our world's poor as witnessed through the retreat experience.



A variety of program options are available as a means of education and experience. These options include:

- Direct Service
- Urban Immersion
- Topics of Study such as:
 - Racism
 - Poverty
 - Immigration
 - War

DIRECT SERVICE

The Direct Service Experience enables youth and young adults to experience for themselves the joys of service at various agencies throughout the city. While at shelters, food banks, residential care facilities, and other similar agencies, the retreat participants work with the staff and volunteers to provide for the needs of the people they meet. In addition to directly serving the poor, the youth participate in critical social analysis and reflective discussions that focus on their personal response to the "call to serve."



Direct Service Project



URBAN IMMERSION

The Urban Immersion Experience uniquely educates youth and young adults on the real life experience of the many populations experiencing or who have experienced oppression, and those forced to live on the margins of society. During this retreat, participants are challenged with specific obstacles, representing the injustices experienced each and every day by those living on the margins. By undergoing and sharing those experiences with others, participants gain a personal understanding and appreciation of conditions that others face in their daily lives.

TOPICS OF STUDY

Each Topic of Study Experience is designed to have specific focus, isolating particular issues and themes so as to delve more deeply into specific injustices. These retreats may be developed to suit groups' interests.



Why is it that we as a people can find billions to spend in racing madly to the moon, in making a plane that will fly across the ocean in three hours instead of six, in arming dictatorships and oligarchies around the world – while we cannot even be concerned enough to provide milk and bread to our own hungry children? Do not American priorities need a radical reordering?

-Brother David Darst, 1941-1969