

**Second Annual
Summer Mission Experience
(Dolores Mission)
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA**

St. Xavier students will travel to Los Angeles to partner with Dolores Mission Church and School www.dolores-mission.org who have provided dedicated service to the poor, the immigrant and to social justice in Los Angeles' Boyle Heights community since opening in 1925. This Jesuit Parish aims to allow Christ's healing and transformation, and to raise consciousness about larger issues of justice and peace to others.

Situated in a community that is predominantly Mexican American, St. Xavier students will be working with St. Dolores Mission students who mostly come from Spanish-speaking, economically-disadvantaged homes. During the summer program, St. X students will help these kids (grades 1-8) with school work, participate in enrichment work and other activities. This annual summer program not only strengthens the children academically, but keeps them safely cared for while their parents are at work.

Outside of working with children, St. Xavier students will have the opportunity to cook meals at a homeless shelter and tour other social service agencies like Homeboy Industries and the Cardinal Manning Center that work to rehabilitate returning citizens and find them employment and housing options.

After landing in Los Angeles, students will travel through the city by van and stay in the Dolores Mission School classrooms. As a group, students will prepare their own meals and pack lunches each day. Each night after their activities, students will come together to reflect upon the day and what they experienced and learned.

The mission trip will be based on the Ignatian paradigm of Experience, Reflection, and Action. Students will begin to understand their own fears and stereotypes of the poor. Ideally, students will begin to see the face of God in the poor, in minorities, and in each other as they reflect upon the gospel in the midst of the members of the Los Angeles community. The real challenge of the mission experience is for students to apply the lessons of the trip to their lives at home and at St. Xavier.

Applicants should understand that this trip is **NOT** a vacation. Students are expected to participate and contribute fully to the community experience. Applicants should be prepared for a challenging, yet rewarding, experience. Additional information is available in the Community Service Office.

WHEN: July 1 – July 7
TRAVEL: By air to Los Angeles
COST: \$1375 per student*

****Limited financial aid is available to students who qualify.***