## Fourth Annual Immersion Detroit (University of Detroit Jesuit) DETROIT, MICHIGAN

This five-day experience in Detroit, Michigan, is in partnership with the University of Detroit Jesuit High School and Academy ( <a href="https://uofdjesuit.org/">https://uofdjesuit.org/</a>). This immersion/service trip runs with the general theme of "service days and cultural nights."

Students will spend the day serving local food pantries, homeless shelters and outreach agencies. By serving the people of Detroit and working alongside dedicated community organizations, students will see firsthand and better understand the economic and social issues facing Detroit.

In the evenings, students will explore the rich history and heritage of the Motor City by visiting places like the International Riverwalk along the Detroit River, the Eastern Market which is the largest open-air market in the United States, a 1960's recording studio converted into the Motown Museum, the vibrant community of Mexicantown and more.

Students will have the opportunity to reflect upon and talk about their experiences as a group as well as time to ask the questions of locals.

Students will travel to each location by van and stay at a retreat center.

The mission trip will be based on the Ignatian paradigm of Experience, Reflection, and Action. From their service experiences students will learn about the needs of the people who live in Detroit. They 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 marginalized 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: June 4 – June 9
TRAVEL: By van to Detroit
COST: \$600 per student\*

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