



CSI: Cincinnati 2022

Franciscan Ministries Tau House

October 16-21

What is a Christian Service Immersion (CSI) at Bishop Chatard High School?

The CSI program is designed to give Bishop Chatard students the opportunity to engage their faith and values in Christian service, learn about social justice issues and Catholic Social Teaching, practice simple community living, and process their experiences through daily prayer and guided reflection. Christian Service Immersions challenge students to integrate faith, work, prayer, and community in a weeklong experience.

What is the Tau House? What will we be doing there?

Tau House focuses on exposing participants to the Franciscan traditions of simplicity, service, community, and spirituality. Groups from parishes and schools nationwide come and spend a week living simply in community with one another while serving in various service agencies in the greater Cincinnati area. Tau House helps coordinate the service assignments, as well as social, educational, and prayer opportunities throughout the experience.

Bishop Chatard students will engage with local agencies who serve the homeless, hungry, incarcerated, and immigrant communities. They will also learn about Catholic Social Teaching and be challenged to think critically about justice issues and social change. In practicing simple community living, students will cook meals together (with adult supervision and help), reflect and pray together, and build meaningful relationships without the distraction of their cell phones. Students will be challenged to get outside of their comfort zone, enter fully into the realities of justice issues, and put their faith into action. Flexibility, maturity, and openness will be key.

What are the details?

This trip will happen over Fall Break. We will leave from BCHS on Sunday, October 16 in the afternoon and arrive back at BCHS on Friday, October 21 in the afternoon. We will have 12 spots available, with rising juniors and seniors getting priority. **This trip will satisfy the Christian Service expectation for juniors and seniors.**

Freshmen and sophomores are welcome to apply, but will not receive priority consideration and that the trip will not count for their grade level Christian Service expectations (the hours would count towards receiving the Saint Lawrence Honor Cord). At least two adult chaperones, all Bishop Chatard teachers or staff, will drive students to Cincinnati, supervise all activities, and lead reflection/prayer.

Stepping away from technology is a vital piece of any immersive experience. When we take time to “unplug” from our devices, we allow ourselves to be more intentional in



building relationships, noticing our emotions, and focusing on our experiences. As such, students will turn in their cell phones upon arrival to BCHS on Sunday and will receive their cell phones upon return to the school. Cell phones will be kept safe with adult chaperones for the duration of the week. Parents will be able to contact adult trip leaders via cell phone at any time throughout the week.

The cost of this trip will be **\$350 per student**. This covers all transportation, food, and facilitation and coordination of the week. If your family has great financial need, we may be able to accommodate your situation. Parents should contact Ms. Steiner at lsteiner@bishopchatard.org.

Interested students should submit an application no later than August 31, 2022 for consideration. See Ms. Steiner in the Campus Ministry Office or email at lsteiner@bishopchatard.org with any questions.

How do I apply?

Students can apply via [this link](#) before August 31, 2022. Submitting an application does NOT guarantee a reserved spot; if we have more than 12 students apply, we will place students on a waitlist. Acceptance to attend is contingent upon approval from the Dean of Students (Mr. Vince Lorenzano) and Principal (Mr. John Hasty). Please see Ms. Steiner with any questions.

Timeline:

August 11: application opens; time to ask Ms. Steiner any questions

August 31: application due

September 6: accepted students are notified and forms sent to parents

September 12: permission/acknowledgment forms and funds due to reserve spot

September/October: student formation/parent meetings

October 16-21: CSI: Cincinnati trip