

A Grateful Rebel Heart

By: Danielle Farris

Many times in our children's lives they go out and do things, and we worry as parents. Are they safe? Are they making good choices? Are they happy? Being a teacher at Teurlings Catholic High School, I am fortunate to be able to witness my children and all the students at TCHS experience many wonderful things. I was able to attend the Girls and Guys Retreat a couple of weeks ago and be a part of this beautiful experience.

At the retreat, I witnessed fellowship amongst the students. The guys cooked, played gaga ball, tossed the football around, sang songs, and had great talks led by TCHS Alum, Father White and some of our male faculty members. The girls were treated to a coffee bar, served desserts by the guys, and had talks and discussions led by many female alumni and TCHS faculty members.

When you see so many alumni return and want to give back, you know something great is going on here. I witnessed students reaching out to the alumni and faculty who were there to help them with their guidance, advice, or just a shoulder to cry on. The students were joyful, playful, and happy to be at the retreat!

The night ended with adoration and confession. To watch my children go from laughing and playing to praying and adoring our Lord was such a beautiful sight. I felt such a sense of peace knowing both of my children were able to experience this retreat. I feel truly blessed and comforted to know the people of Teurlings Catholic High School are helping to shape and form my children to be faith-filled followers of Christ. My goal as a parent is to help my children get to heaven. The people who work at TCHS care about this too, and are giving them these special opportunities, like this retreat, to help them get to heaven too.

Our Campus Ministry program is such a gift to our campus. The Campus Ministry Class and Theology Department work hard putting on events all

year long for our students. I am truly thankful, as a parent, my children get to have these opportunities to deepen their faith. Let's face it, our children are busy, over scheduled, and stressed. Nights like this are good for their souls and mental state. We could all use some quiet time reflecting and praying. Most of the time after events like the retreat my kids come home refreshed and renewed. Encourage your children to get involved in these activities. It definitely has had a profound impact on my children, and I will forever be thankful!

Thank you to all who worked so hard to make the Girls and Guys Retreat happen. It truly was such a special experience. I left the evening with a grateful REBEL HEART!