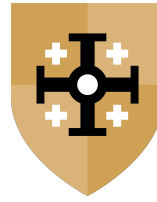


PRESS RELEASE

Holy Cross Catholic High School
The Way Retreat Center



Local Catholic High School and Christian Retreat Center Sign a Long Term Lease

Midland, TX – October 20, 2021 –Holy Cross Catholic High School and The Way Retreat Center have joined together in a long term lease, providing a new and permanent home for Holy Cross Catholic High School, while The Way Retreat Center can still operate 100% as a Christian retreat center. The collaboration of the two entities will allow both the education of the students, as well as to continue to provide a place for Christian spiritual retreats and events.

“We are thrilled to share facilities with The Way Retreat Center to further what we see is a united mission for both organizations. Providing the space for students and the community at large to have an encounter with Christ is at the center of our work.” says Brad Gibson, President of Holy Cross Catholic High School Board of Directors

Holy Cross has completed two years, now in its third year of instruction. The school started operations at St. Elizabeth Ann’s Seton Catholic Church, in Odessa, in the fall of 2019, while Holy Cross looked into the best options for a permanent home.

The Way Retreat Center sits on 300 acres in northeast Midland and started holding Christian retreats in 2018. The Way Retreat Center is a non-denominational facility, providing a state of the art serene environment for Christian spiritual retreats and special events.

“Holy Cross had a function and increased enrollment, but no permanent home. The Way Retreat Center had a tremendously difficult time, financially, during the pandemic, and it was the best opportunity for both organizations to thrive and build on each other’s mission of strengthening as many individuals journey towards Christ.” says Dan Varner, President of The Way Retreat Center Board of Directors

The high school utilizes the facility during the week and the retreats and events are typically held over a weekend. The coordination of the organizations will utilize the beautiful state of the art facilities, right here in the Permian Basin, every day of the week. Holy Cross is able to serve 115 students as the facility sits today, but plans to expand and grow student enrollment to 400 students.

“Sharing such a beautiful location to make our mission a reality for the Permian Basin community is not only smart from a fiscal perspective” Gibson says “It is an example of the type of collaboration that can have an outsized impact on the lives of both students and adults across West Texas for all Christian denominations.”

“The Lord placed us in each other’s paths” Varner says “We look forward to seeing our organizations grow and impact our community in a positive way. The Way is a Christian Retreat Center and Catholicism happens to fall under that umbrella. We are able to provide for each other. Together, our two very worthy organizations will create an environment that promotes spiritual and personal growth for individuals, families and all different groups.”

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