Don Bosco Senior Secondary School, Nerul

Annual Spiritual Recollection for Catholic students

Name of the Event: Annual Spiritual Recollection for Catholic students

Grade: V to XII

Sections: Middle School, Secondary School and Senior Secondary School

Name of the Place: DBSS

Conducted by: Fr Allwyn Misquitta SDB (School Catechist & Coordinator)
Fr Barnabe D'Souza SDB (Rector)
Fr Joyston – Classes 11 & 12
Fr Ian Pinto – Classes 9 & 10
Fr Evangelino – Classes 7 & 8
Fr Allwyn – Classes 5 & 6

Date of the Event: Saturday, 22nd November 2025

What did you learn?

The Spiritual Recollection was a beautiful opportunity for students to slow down, pray, and reflect. The day began with Praise and Worship, which immediately created an atmosphere of peace and togetherness. The opening prayer and reflections helped everyone focus on being present with God.

Each Father guided the students through meaningful sessions using worksheets, simple stories and short reflections. Students learned how Gospel values can guide them in their daily choices—whether at home, in school or with friends. They were encouraged to look at their lives honestly and understand how faith can make them more joyful, kind and peaceful.

The celebration of the Holy Mass brought all the students together again, giving the morning a strong spiritual centre. Many students shared that the day helped them reconnect with their faith in a simple and personal way.

Key takeaways:

- Faith grows when we make time for prayer and silence.
- Small actions—like being kind, forgiving quickly, or helping others—show our love for God.
- The Salesian spirit invites us to be cheerful, friendly and simple in our behaviour.
- Joy, love and peace are not just words; they are choices we make daily.
- Being part of a faith community helps us support one another.

How is it relevant to your school context?

The recollection closely reflects the Salesian values that Don Bosco stands for. It helped students understand that education is not only about academics but also about forming the heart. The presence of the Salesian Fathers added warmth and personal connection, which is a hallmark of Don Bosco institutions.

By organising class-wise sessions, the school ensured that each age group received guidance that suited them. The day strengthened the bond between students and the school's spiritual family, reminding everyone of the importance of growing in faith together.

How will you apply it with students in the classroom/beyond?

- Begin classes with a short thought, prayer or moment of silence.
- Encourage students to practise kindness, gratitude and patience every day.
- Create opportunities for them to reflect on their actions and relationships.
- Link classroom discussions subtly to values like honesty, empathy and responsibility.
- Motivate students to participate in liturgical activities and small acts of service.
- Reinforce the three virtues—joy, love and peace—through classroom displays or weekly goals.

What could have been better?

- Adding short video clips might have made the sessions even more engaging.
- A personal reflection sheet at the end could help students summarise their experience.

What was done well?

- The day was extremely well-coordinated and smoothly conducted.
- Each Father created a warm, comfortable environment for sharing and reflection.
- The morning prayer and later, the Holy Mass, were conducted reverently and meaningfully.
- Students were attentive and genuinely involved throughout the programme.
- The virtues shared at the end—joy, love and peace—were simple, memorable and relatable.

Do you have any suggestion?

- Such recollection camps should be organised not only for Catholic students but also for non-Catholic students, so that the Don Bosco spirit of inclusivity is truly lived out in the school.
- Sessions may be planned separately for Catholic and non-Catholic students to ensure that each group receives guidance relevant to their own faith background while still sharing the common values of kindness, joy and service.
- It would be meaningful to conduct the recollection on a regular working day so that every child can participate and no student misses out on such a fruitful and enriching experience.

Rating: (Highlight in Green)

Choice of Topic	1	2	3	4	5
Speaker	1	2	3	4	5
Presentation	1	2	3	4	5
Engagement	1	2	3	4	5
Satisfaction Index	1	2	3	4	5

(1 being lowest, 5 being highest)

Photographs:

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