

Youth Ministry



The Office of Youth, Campus, and Young Adult Ministries believes that the most important ministry with young people happens at the parish level. Therefore, they provide regular trainings and resources to help each parish Director of Youth Ministry (DYM) to be as effective as possible in helping young people to grow in their faith lives and remain active in the Church for the rest of their lives.

"You too, dear young people, can be joyful witnesses of his love, courageous witnesses of his Gospel, carrying to this world a ray of his light."

- Pope Francis at World Youth Day

- Bishop Burbidge attended the first-ever Catholic Family Campout which was held at Camp Snyder in Gainesville. Over 500 youth and parents participated in this weekend of outdoor games, prayer experiences and opportunities to earn religious scouting emblems.
- The office placed a greater emphasis on incorporating young people with disabilities into their events. Young people with significant disabilities participated in WorkCamp, RALLY and BASH for the first time ever. Parish leaders are being trained in how to welcome young people with special needs into all their events.
- The diocese was able to continue a program where DYM's work on their Masters' Degree in Catechetics and Evangelization through the Franciscan University of Steubenville at 5% of the normal cost.
- The office sponsors the "Life is VERY Good" evening of prayer on the night before the March for Life. This event fills the Eaglebank arena with thousands of young people from across the country to prayerfully prepare for the March for Life and to pray for an end to abortion.
- RALLY and BASH are events designed to help students deepen their relationship with Christ and love for the Church by participating in large Catholic celebrations with hundreds of their peers. These events encourage and inspire young people through prayer, learning and fellowship. Highlights from this year's RALLY include a live podcast recording with Bishop Burbidge to invite young people into dialogue about their involvement in the Church.
- This office oversees the Northern Virginia Junior Catholic Youth Organization (NVJCYO) sports program and the 5500+ young people that participate in one of the leagues. Coaches and parents participate in trainings to reflect upon how the faith can be incorporated into sports.

STEADFAST IN *faith* AND JOYFUL IN *hope*