

BASH 2024 INFORMATION

Bishop Burbidge invites all middle school students of the Diocese to join him at BASH 2024!

BASH is our largest gathering of Catholic middle school students (6th-8th graders) every year! This event is an opportunity for the young Church in the Diocese of Arlington to gather each year to pray, learn, and celebrate the Catholic faith. We are planning for hundreds of middle school students to gather for an evening of faith, fellowship, and fun! This includes music, games, inspirational speakers, confessions, and a Vigil Mass for Sunday. Bishop Burbidge will be the principal celebrant and homilist for this Mass.

This information is being sent to every Director of Youth Ministry, Director of Religious Education, and school principal in the Diocese. **Please work together as a parish to bring as many middle school students as possible to this event.** This includes young people participating in scouting programs, sports leagues, altar servers, Hispanic youth programs, Junior Legion of Mary, and Confirmation students. **BASH is meant for ALL 6th-8th graders, and we ask that you are intentional about personally extending an invitation to young people with physical or cognitive disabilities.** We would like to ensure that all feel welcome at BASH; please contact us so that we may discuss individual accessibility needs.

Details for this year's BASH:

SATURDAY, May 4, 2024 – Bishop O'Connell High School, Arlington, VA

Registration check-in will begin at 3:00 p.m., the event begins at 3:30 p.m., and the day will finish by 8:30 p.m.

\$15 per person includes dinner and a free T-shirt.

1 (fully OPCYP compliant) adult leader is REQUIRED for every 10 youth.

Each participant will need a signed permission slip.

Our lineup includes:

- **Danny Ray** – World-Renowned illusionist, keynote speaker, and author Danny Ray creates mind-blowing magic shows with a life-changing message. In 2021, Danny appeared on *Penn and Teller: Fool Us* and fooled them with a trick that has left Arlington audiences speechless!
- **Mari Pablo** – Mari is well known for her dynamic presentations internationally at large events such as Steubenville Youth Conferences, World Youth Day, NCYC, NET, SEEK, diocesan events and more. Mari is a presenter for Ascension Press on numerous projects and is currently serving parishes and universities across the country with The Evangelical Catholic.
- **Tons of inflatable games, pizza, Rita's, Smiley's Ice Cream, and more!** From the rock-climbing wall to bacon pizza, we've got a great day planned!
- **Gaga Ball tournament and free throw competition**, with great prizes available for the winners!
- **BASH T-shirts!** Every youth and adult participant will receive a BASH T-shirt. Sizes available: Youth Medium, Youth Large, Youth Extra Large. Adult Small, Medium, Large, Extra Large, 2X, 3X, 4X.

Though this event costs us much more than \$15 per person, we are able to offer some financial assistance if needed. If you have teens in need of this assistance, please do not hesitate to call us at (703) 841-2559. We would never want a young person to miss this great event due to financial reasons.

We recommend that you hang the enclosed posters (both English and Spanish) in the entrance to your church and school, and stand outside of your parish Masses to invite every middle school student that walks by! At the bottom of the poster, please write in any parish-specific information, including the name and phone number or e-mail address of the person coordinating this event for your group. If you need more posters, please contact the Office of Youth, Campus, and Young Adult Ministries. Online registration opens on Thursday, April 4; instructions including the registration link will be found on the webpage at that time. <https://www.arlingtondiocese.org/youth-ministry/bash/> Please call the office for the authentication code.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call the Office of Youth, Campus, and Young Adult Ministries at (703) 841-2559. **We look forward to seeing you at BASH!**