

RALLY 2023 INFORMATION

Bishop Burbidge invites all teens of the Diocese to join him at RALLY 2023!

RALLY is our largest gathering of high school students each year. This annual event is an opportunity for the young Church in the Diocese of Arlington to gather and pray, learn, and celebrate the Catholic faith. RALLY includes Mass with Bishop Burbidge, Eucharistic Adoration, inspirational speakers, breakout sessions, inflatable games, tasty treats, music, and more!

Please consider canceling your regular scheduled Sunday activity to place an emphasis upon this important diocesan gathering of young people that Bishop Burbidge has invited all to attend. When we gather together at RALLY it is much like a family reunion. If your parish does not attend, you are missed, and it diminishes the experience for the whole Diocese. **RALLY is meant for ALL high school students, 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 RALLY; please contact us so that we may discuss individual accessibility needs.

Details for this year's RALLY:

SUNDAY, October 22, 2023 – Bishop O'Connell High School, Arlington, VA.
Registration check-in will begin at 11:30 a.m. and the day will finish by 8:00 p.m.
\$25 per person includes dinner (not lunch!) and a long sleeved T-shirt.
1 (fully OPCYP compliant) adult leader for every 10 youth.

On the day of RALLY, please eat lunch *before* arriving at the event. Check-in will begin at **11:30 a.m.** Snacks will be available in the afternoon. Sunday Mass, with Bishop Burbidge as the principal celebrant and homilist, will be at **3:30 p.m.**

We spend more than \$25 per person to put together this event. However, if the cost keeps you from being able to register some teens, or if you have specific teens who cannot afford the \$25, please do not hesitate to call our office and we can work something out. We would never want money to be a reason that a teen misses this experience.

Our lineup includes:

- **Jimmy Mitchell** – Believing deeply in the power of beauty to evangelize culture, Jimmy Mitchell's gifts of storytelling and piano-playing have brought him to every corner of the world. Whether he's mentoring young people in virtue or interviewing award-winning artists in his studio, Jimmy loves nothing more than helping others fall in love with God.
- **Ben Walther** – Ben is a singer, songwriter, worship leader, husband and father. He has been making music for more than 15 years. Ben travels across the country leading worship and sharing his gifts with God's people.
- **Breakout Sessions** – Three rounds of breakout sessions where teens can learn about different aspects of the Catholic faith and be encouraged in their relationship with Christ!
- **Games and Entertainment** – From inflatables and the rock wall to GaGa, 9 Square, and Bingo, there is something for everyone!
- **Delicious Dinner** – Hundreds of pizzas (including the ever-popular bacon pizza!) with dessert from Smiley's Ice Cream and Rita's Italian Ice.

Please be sure to invite all the high school students in your parish! Publicize the event widely but also place great importance on invitation by visiting youth groupings occurring in your parish and inviting young people directly!

The RALLY webpage (<http://www.arlingtondiocese.org/Youth-Ministry/RALLY>) will always have the most up to date information on the event including permission slips (in both English and Spanish) and registration instructions. The registration website will open on Friday, September 22. When the promotional video has been posted, the link will be sent in the IN Box and posted on social media and the RALLY webpage. Please do not hesitate to let us know if you need more posters! Please call the Office of Youth, Campus, and Young Adult Ministries at (703) 841-2559 with any questions.