**Office for Evangelization**

**Catholic Diocese of Richmond**

**EPIC: A Middle School Event**

**August 3, 2024 | Richmond**

This communication contains information concerning EPIC 2024. Please read all the information contained in this communication to ensure you have a full understanding of the event.

**What is EPIC?**

EPIC is a one-day diocesan event for middle school youth (rising grades 6-8). This event is intended to be a high-energy day that is focused on two things: (1) building community & friendships with other Catholic middle school youth, and (2) encouraging zeal for our Catholic faith. Throughout the day, youth will experience everything from inflatables to a service project, relay races to Mass. Keynote sessions will highlight the lives of young saints and emphasize the universal call to holiness – every age, including middle school youth, is called to sainthood! They will also interact with high school teens who attended Discipleship Week in the days prior to EPIC. At the end of the day, middle school youth will walk away feeling excited about their community and their faith. Join us, it is going to be EPIC!

**Who should attend EPIC?**

EPIC is open to all youth who will be in grades 6-8 during the 2024-2025 academic year.

**Where and when is EPIC?**

EPIC will be held on Saturday, August 3, 2024 at Saint Joseph’s Villa in Richmond, Virginia from 11am-7pm. The address is 8000 Brook Road, Richmond, VA 23227.

**What is the schedule of the day?**

*Please note: The schedule is subject to change.*

11:00am Registration, Lunch, & Inflatables

12:30pm Session #1

1:30pm Relay Races

2:00pm Service Project & Free Time

4:00pm Session #2

5:00pm Vigil Mass

6:00pm Dinner

7:00pm Leave

**How is Discipleship Week connected to EPIC?**

Discipleship Week will be held on the three days prior to EPIC, July 31-August 2, and will then serve as peer leaders at EPIC. During Discipleship Week, high school teens will learn how to be disciples, leaders, and mentors. A practical component of this training is taking the skills they have learned and putting them into action at EPIC. To find out more about Discipleship Week, contact the Office for Evangelization at evangelization@richmonddiocese.org or visit the website [www.evangelizerichmond.org](http://www.evangelizerichmond.org).

**What are the requirements for adult chaperones?**

For this event, **1 adult is required for every 6 youth (or part therein)** who are participating in EPIC. Each adult chaperone must be in compliance with the Diocesan Safe Environment Policies, which includes completing the following:

* Screening One Volunteer Form (every 5 years)
* VIRTUS training (once)

Adult registrations will not be processed on-site. It is the responsibility of the youth minister to ensure that they are VIRTUS trained and up to date on their Screening One background check. Please note that parish/Diocesan employees and Catholic school employees have additional screening that must be completed.

**What is the registration fee?**

The registration fee for youth participants and adult participants is $50/person.

**The last day to register is Monday, July 8, 2024 at 12:00noon.**

**Cancellations & Substitutions**

 Each participant cancellation on or before **July 8, 2024**  Full Refund

 Each participant cancellation after **July 8, 2024**  No Refund

 Each participant substituted between July 8, 2024 and **July 29, 2024 at 12:00noon***\** $10

*\*The last day to request a substitution is Monday, July 29, 2024 at 12:00noon. Please note, correct t-shirt sizes for substitutions cannot be guaranteed.*

**What does this registration fee cover?**

The participant registration fee covers the following:

* Admission to EPIC
* Lunch, Frozen Snack, & Dinner
* Give Away Item
* T-Shirt

**How do I register?**

All youth and adults must register through their parish Youth Minister. The registration process includes:

1. **Registration Form:** Print out and distribute the registration form from [www.evangelizerichmond.org](http://www.evangelizerichmond.org). A copy should be maintained by the Youth Minister in case of emergency. **DO NOT SEND THESE TO THE OFFICE FOR EVANGELIZATION.**
2. **Register Participants via the Online Registration System:** If you are the parish Youth Minister, contact the Office for Evangelization to get the password for the online registration system.
3. **Send payments to the Office for Evangelization** *(if you did not pay via credit card on the online registration system)*:Be sure to include your parish/school name along with a list of participants for whom the payment applies. All outstanding registration fees will be invoiced to the parish.

**Questions?**

Contact us via email (evangelization@richmonddiocese.org) or phone (804-622-5159).