



What is EDGE?

Edge is a Catholic middle school youth ministry program. It provides a safe fun place for youth to find solid Catholic community, to get answers to their questions about faith, and, most importantly, to experience Jesus in a profound and personal way. EDGE resources speak to the physical, psychological, cognitive, relational, and spiritual maturation of middle school youth. EDGE resources make it easier for youth ministers to plan out their semesters of EDGE Night, retreats, and to train a team of adults, the Core Team, to assist them in the ministry. The resources present Catholic teaching in a way that young people can understand.

Why is EDGE Important?

We all remember that middle school was awkward and difficult. That hasn't changed. However, societal shifts have made the middle school years more difficult than ever. Today, middle school youth are having experiences that were common only with high school students just 15 years ago. Threats of violence, availability of drugs and alcohol, and pervasiveness of sex and pornography are the new norm. Not only are they faced with these tough realities but they are also in the process of moving from being family-centered to friend-centered.

Peers gain greater influence and parental authority is called into question. As they shift socially they are also experiencing tremendous changes emotionally and intellectually. As they wade through all the difficulties of this time of life, they have real questions and need real answers. If parish leaders ignore the unique challenges of their middle school youth, they risk losing them forever.

That is why EDGE middle school youth ministry program is an essential part to any parish youth ministry. It is created specifically to reach out to the age group and lead them closer to Christ.