



EDGE IS FOR 6TH, 7TH, AND 8TH GRADERS...

This generation has seen a shift in development. What high schoolers five or ten years ago were going through is what our middle school kids are going through today. The EDGE meets them at a time when they aren't quite children, but not quite teens in High School yet. Giving them a solid foundation in middle school gives them an edge (pun intended) on the pressures of the culture and their peers so they'll be better equipped to use the tools of the Catholic faith to help them fight temptations and remain true to who they are – children of God, deeply loved and cared for. Kids come out of the EDGE stronger leaders at school, home, and in their faith lives.

ST. MARY'S EDGE

Terri Trotter / Terry Augustine
Director of Faith Formation & EDGE Youth Minister
219 Bean Avenue
Los Gatos, CA 95030
408.354.4061 x122
email: augiemom@aol.com
ttrotter@stmaryslg.org
Website: www.stmaryslg.org/parish

ST. MARY'S CHURCH
219 BEAN AVENUE
LOS GATOS, CA 95030



THE EDGE

Middle School Ministry

6th - 8th Grade



EDGE IS ABOUT COMMUNITY...

It's about the larger Church community handing on the faith to the middle schoolers by example, the kids feeling welcomed and respected by the Church, and getting involved in the life of the Church in turn. One of the number one reasons why kids come to The EDGE is because they feel like they have a safe place to feel out what exactly they believe in and get support from the Church through the struggles of becoming a teenager in our over-scheduled, over-sexualized, and over-stimulated culture. The EDGE is a youth ministry for 6th, 7th, and 8th Graders that is Catechetical, Relational, Experiential, and Catholic. What does all of that mean?

EDGE IS CATECHETICAL...

Which means middle schoolers learn about the Catholic Faith and Catholic Traditions. We divide the year into semesters: Fall and Spring, but we go year round with our Summer Session, as well. Each semester has a theme that guides the semester EDGE Nights. Topics range from basic catechesis such as The Creed, Saints, and Sacraments to deeper subjects such as The Gifts of the Holy Spirit, Eucharistic Adoration, and Lectio Divina .



EDGE IS YOUTH MINISTRY...

We're a youth group – that means our format is more appealing to middle schoolers than a classroom setting for faith formation, more engaging, and more practical. We meet the kids where they're at in their lives through the activities we do, discussions we have, way we do our teachings, and the Core Team.



EDGE IS RELATIONAL...

The EDGE's Core Team has responded to God's call to go out and make disciples of the nations by being here every week with the middle schoolers. The Core leads the kids closer to Christ by example. Christ showed us that people are what lead other people closer to Him and His Truth. The gift of time given by the Core Team is a witness to the middle schoolers of the Church's (and God's) love for them. We especially, encourage parents to get involved as Core Members because it fosters a positive view of people like their parents (or their actual parents) getting involved in their faith and in their lives.

EDGE IS EXPERIENTIAL...

Our youth ministry format allows for dynamic meetings that don't just teach the kids about God, but leads them into a deeper relationship *with* God. We believe

that

there's a difference between knowing God and knowing about God. While both are important, middle school is when it is especially important for kids to know God, not just about Him. The EDGE Nights are interactive and feature activities that help the middle Middle Schoolers proclaim God's Word at almost every EDGE Night Stacking canned food to be donated

WHAT IS THE EDGE?

Small group prayer time

