

THE EDGE

St. Raphael's Junior High Ministry

Dear Parent,

Welcome to **THE EDGE**, St. Raphael's Jr. High Youth Ministry Program. Our goal is to give our Jr. High youth **THE EDGE**, the Catholic **EDGE**, the Jesus **EDGE**, as they go through this time of remarkable change in their lives.

In many respects Jr. High school youth are on **THE EDGE** because so much is happening in their lives physically, mentally, spiritually, and socially. It can be a very stressful and difficult time for them and for their parents. Some psychologists have dubbed this time in a child's life as "the last great chance."

While their peers begin to take on a more significant role during these years, the Jr. High youth are still very connected and influenced by their parents. They are still craving a close relationship with you and other adults in their lives even if they do not outwardly show it. That is why we welcome the parents to **THE EDGE** program as well. We consider your participation and support to the program as vital as anything we do. There are many ways you can support this vital Jr. High Youth Ministry program:

- Clear your child's schedule for the Thursday nights that **THE EDGE** meets. Make these nights your child's first commitment.
- Attend the St. Raphael's Sunday evening 5:30 LIFE TEEN Mass on a regular basis. This mass is geared toward our young people so that mass will have special meaning for them in their lives.
- Join **THE EDGE** Core Team. We need a team of 15 committed leaders to support this program. It's a great way to stay connected to your child's spiritual life and a great way to strengthen your own. You will be assigned to a different group than your child's, and the interaction with your child's peers will give you insight into the mind of a Jr. High Youth.

Enclosed please find **THE EDGE** registration form and meeting schedule with a brief description of the program. Please feel free to call me at 964-3466 Ext 1 or email srym12@yahoo.com. I look forward to seeing your Jr. High School child at our first meeting on October 1, 2009 and at our Sunday evening 5:30 LIFE TEEN Mass which is held every Sunday evening.

Blessings to you and your family,

John Vasellina
Youth Minister, Confirmation Coordinator

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Dear 8th Grade Student and Parent,

This past school years Jr. High program THE EDGE was a very good and productive year, and I am already looking forward to the next school year. Registration forms for the fall program for **THE EDGE** will be available after July 1, 2007, after the Sunday evening 5:30 LIFE TEEN Mass, calling me at 964-3466 Ext 1 and setting up an appointment, or by going to the parish office between the hours 8:30 – 11:30 and 12:30 – 5:00 Monday – Friday.

Parents, the Edge program is in need of adult help, as I cannot run an effective program without adequate supervision. Therefore, I am in need of adults who can commit to the 16 Thursday evening EDGE nights, enjoy sharing their faith, and enjoy being around Jr. High Students. Please call me at 964-3466 Ext 1 so I can talk to you more about how you might be of service to our youth

I look forward to having you in THE EDGE as we begin the Jr. High Ministry Program in the fall. I am counting on you to continue the spirit and enthusiasm of our program, and hoping that you will invite many of your friends.

I am keeping you in my prayers for a safe and fun filled summer. Remember to attend our Sunday evening 5:30 LIFE TEEN Mass through out the summer.

Please call me with questions at 964-3466 Ext 1 or email srym12@yahoo.com.

Many Blessings,

John Vasellina