



Dear Parent,

Welcome to *The EDGE*, St. Peter and St. Paul's Middle School Youth Ministry Program. Our goal is to give our middle school kids a place to feel welcomed and loved as they go through this time of remarkable change in their lives.

In many respects middle school youth are on *The EDGE*, because so much is going on in their lives physically, mentally, spiritually, and socially. It can be a very stressful and difficult time for them and their parents. Some psychologist 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, middle schoolers are still very connected and influenced by their parents. They are still craving a close relationship with you and other adults in their lives.

That is why we welcome you to *The EDGE* too. We consider your participation in this ministry as vital as anything we do. There are many ways you can participate:

- Clear your child's schedule for *The EDGE* classes. Make *The EDGE* your child's commitment.
- Come to St. Peter and St. Paul Catholic Church's Youth Liturgy on Sunday nights at 5:00. The music and the homily are geared toward young people, so the liturgy has a special meaning in their lives.
- Join our *EDGE* Small Group Leaders. 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. Your interaction with your child's peers will give you valuable insight into the mind of the middle schooler.

Please return both *The EDGE* registration and emergency form. Please return all signed forms as soon as possible. Please be aware that payment is due at time of registration. For registration to be accepted, we must have a copy of your child's Baptismal records. Late registrations will take place after September 12, 2008.

We are very excited to begin this year, especially since our *EDGE* ministry based here at St. Peter and St. Paul Catholic Church is now in over 200 parishes across the United States and Canada. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call me, e-mail me, or pull me aside at anytime. Knowing that your schedules are extremely busy at the start of the school year, we will *not* be having a parent orientation meeting. Please be expecting a letter and class calendar before the start of *The EDGE*. We are looking forward to seeing your middle school child at our first *EDGE* classes on September 15th or 16th, 2008.

May God Bless you and your family,

Chris Markford
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