

EDGE ST MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL
junior high ministry

EDGE: orientation night 2025-2026



Outline

What We'll Be Covering

01. **Our Mission**
02. **What's EDGE?**
03. **Confirmation Requirements**
04. **Parent & Sponsor Expectations**
05. **Communications**
06. **Questions**



Our Purpose

Responding to today's teens



Life Teen put together a 2024 report on The State of Catholic Youth in America.

Here's what the numbers say:

- Only 24% of American Youth identify as Catholic
- 43% of Gen Z Catholic Youth believe in the True Presence of the Eucharist
- 1 in 3 teens claim a Christian identity but do not have a relationship with Christ
- Religious disaffiliation typically happens between the ages of 15-29



Our Purpose

Responding to today's teens

- 44% of high schoolers reported feeling persistently sad or hopeless in 2021
- Only 51% of high school students feel like they belong at their schools
- 4/5 teens say they lack purpose in life

..... so what are we going to do about it?





YOUTH MINISTRY MISSION

Leading teens closer to
Christ through an authentic
community that is rooted in
the Eucharist.

EDGE

St. Michael the Archangel
junior high ministry



Core Values

Defining our standards

EDGE helps junior high teens unleash who they were created to be, in Christ.



AUTHENTIC

Each of us is created uniquely and our Lord knows the hairs on our heads. We continue to be true to ourselves and welcoming to all.



MISSIONARY

We are called to share the gospel with the world. Inviting those around us into a community that seeks truth.



SACRAMENTAL

A sacramental life provides us the basis to live into our truest identity

How Do We Do This?



**EDGE: MIDDLE
SCHOOL MINISTRY**



7TH GRADE RETREAT



CONFIRMATION

A Typical Night



**EDGE: MIDDLE
SCHOOL MINISTRY**



GATHER

6:50 - 7:05 Teens Arrive
7:05 - 7:20 Game



PROCLAIM

7:25 - 7:40 Talk + Witness



BREAK

7:45 - 8:15 Small Groups

- 7:45 - 7:55 Snack Time + Social Time
- 7:55 - 8:05 Lectio
- 8:05 - 8:15 Small Group Questions



SEND

8:15 - 8:25 Group Prayer Activity
8:25 - 8:30 Announcements

METHOD: Relational Ministry

building a culture of discipleship

1

CORE TEAM

We have a team of adult and high school volunteers that are on mission to make every teen feel known, heard, and loved.

2

SMALL GROUPS

These groups will remain steady throughout the 2 years and provide a space for connections to be made and questions to be asked. No question is a bad question in small group.

3

GAMES

We are going to have fun and live in the joy that our God desires for us. Games provide shared experiences as a foundation to build authentic relationships from.

4

PARTNERING WITH PARENTS

We desire to serve alongside and supplement parents, who the Church deems has “the first responsibility for the education of their children.”

Pastoral Accompaniment

Fr. Brian Confirmation Parent Meeting

Attend once in the 2 year process for your teen

October 1, 2025

Fr. Brian's night is an overview of the Sacrament of Confirmation, but each year he does speak into specifics of the current context of culture, parenting, and faith.

Parent Meeting is 7-8:30 pm in the parish hall

We Want to Partner with Parents

Parent Formation Nights

Attend 2 of the 3 nights

November 12, 2025

February 4, 2026

April 8, 2026

**Parent Formation Nights are 7-8:30 pm
in the parish hall**



Scan this QR Code to fill out a survey about topics you want to hear about at Parent Formation!

Here to Partner with Sponsors, too

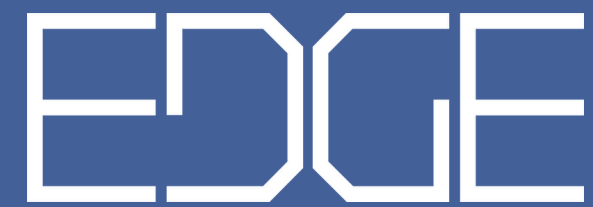
Sponsor Nights

Sponsor attends 2 nights over the 2 years with their candidate. If a sponsor cannot attend, a parent can attend as proxy.

October 22, 2025

January 21, 2026

Sponsor Nights are 7-8:30 pm in the gym



Confirmation Requirements

EDGE fulfills the requirements for
Confirmation preparation



FORMATION

EDGE nights, parent led
discussions, SMA
school formation

SPONSOR

Provides prayerful
support and guidance
to fulfill their baptismal
promises

PATRON SAINT

A companion in heaven
praying for the
candidate and an
example to model their
life by

RETREAT

Every student preparing
for Confirmation must
attend a retreat during
their 8th Grade Year

SERVICE

Part of the life of a
disciple is to serve and
encounter Jesus in
those we serve

STMICHAELCP.ORG/CONFIRMATION



Confirmation Sponsor

Sponsor Selection and Eligibility: January 14

The life of a Christian believer is not easy. We need to have people around us to support and uplift us as we journey closer to Christ.

This is a lifelong commitment that must be taken seriously.

A sponsor's responsibility is to disciple the candidate and help them fulfill their baptismal promise and live a life of prayer, sacraments, and evangelization.

- Must be 16 years old
- Must be practicing Catholic & received Baptism, Confirmation & first Eucharist
- Only ONE sponsor





Therefore, since we have so great a
cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let
us also lay aside every encumbrance
and the sin which so easily entangles
us, and let us run with endurance the
race that is set before us,

Hebrews 12: 1



Patron Saint

Saint names due: January 14

In choosing a confirmation saint, we are choosing someone we want to be like and someone that can pray for us from heaven.

A saint is someone who has walked the Christian walk before us, and we can ask for their prayers just as we would a friend. They help us in our journey towards sainthood.

We also take on their name. This has biblical roots. Simon's name changed to Peter when he took on a new mission. Likewise you take on a new name as you take on a new mission in the Church.



7th Grade Retreat

February 21, 2026

This optional retreat option is offered to 7th graders. It will be hosted at St. Michael the Archangel from 10 am to 3 pm.

As modeled by Jesus, retreats are a cornerstone for our spiritual life and as we walk with your teen we want to provide a space for every teen to step away from the noise of the world and listen to the calm, still voice of the Lord.

It is a great opportunity for your teen to grow in relationship with other teens their age and our EDGE Core Team. It will include a time of games, talks, small groups, and time for prayer. Lunch will be provided.

We hope to see you there!



Christian Service

Reports due: April 29

Confirmation calls us to live a life of discipleship. Part of being a disciple is living a life of service. As we do service to prepare for confirmation we will come to know Christ in a new way and come to live out a life of discipleship.

We are not asking for a specific number of hours of a certain type to fulfill but rather a self-directed service project that should be a cumulative of 10-15 hours and share your experience in a report.

This should be service that is modeled by the corporal works of mercy:

- Feed the hungry
- Give drink to the thirsty
- Shelter the homeless
- Visit the sick
- Visit the imprisoned
- Bury the dead
- Give alms to the poor

Important Due Dates

7th Grade

Requirement Due Dates

October 8, 2025 - Baptismal Certificate

January 14, 2026 - Saint Name

January 14, 2026 - Sponsor Selection & Eligibility Form

Apr 29, 2026 - Christian Service



EDGE EMAILS

Emails on this upcoming weeks topic, at home resources, important date reminders, retreat registration and a look ahead calendar



WEBSITE

All recordings of EDGE nights, submission forms and links can be found here, along with all the important dates.



INSTAGRAM @SMAYOUTH

Any time there is a registration open, the link will be accessible through the link in our bio

Getting the word out

||

Contact Details

Dominic Susanka

Youth Minister

dominic.susanka@stmichaelcp.org

913.402.3912

Emma Grojean

Youth Minister

emma.grojean@stmichaelcp.org

913.402.3945

Marty Simmons

Administrative Assistant

marty.simmons@stmichaelcp.org

913.402.3943

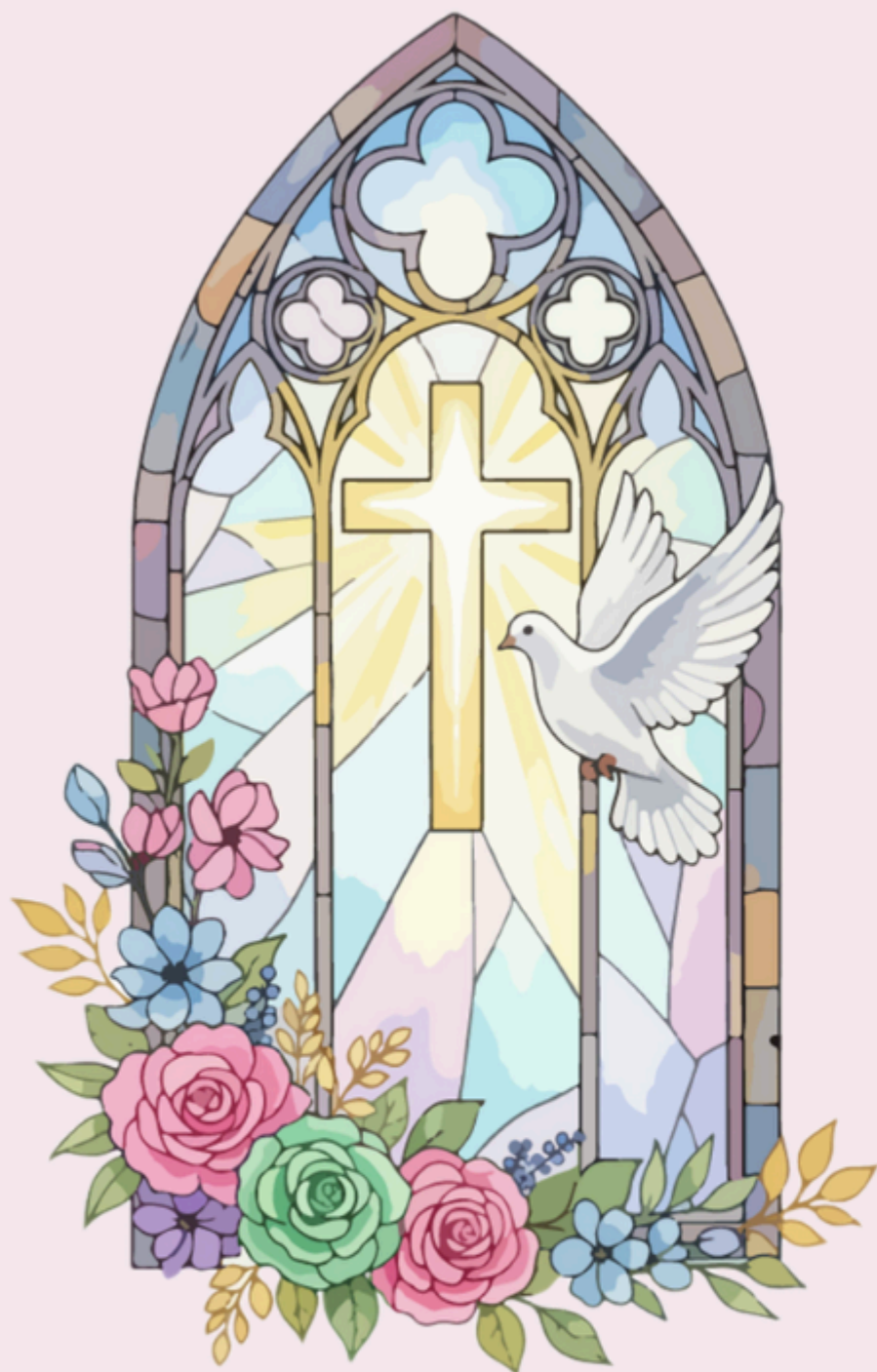
EDGE

Where to find the Resources

www.stmichaelcp.org/edge



EDGE helps junior high teens unleash who they were created to be, in Christ.



THE LORD YOUR GOD IS WITH YOU
WHEREVER YOU GO

Joshua 1:9

Christ Renews His Parish Woman's Retreat Weekend

OCTOBER 4 & 5

For more information contact:
Sarah Campbell:
Sarah.campbell320@gmail.com





Christ RENEWS HIS PARISH

WOMEN'S RETREAT
OCTOBER 4-5



Questions? Email Sarah Campbell
Sarah.campbell320.com

MEN'S RETREAT
NOVEMBER 1-2



Questions? Email Rob Heller
rob@hellerkc.com

IS THE LORD
KNOCKING
ON THE DOOR OF
YOUR HEART?

EDGE

Where to find the Resources

www.stmichaelcp.org/edge



EDGE helps junior high teens unleash who they were created to be, in Christ.