



Moving forward in faith in the spirit of radical hospitality.



LifeTeenSMASH.com



Dear Parents,

Thank you for registering your child for Sixth and Seventh Grade Edge at the Holy Mothers Collaborative of Saint Mary's and Saint Helen's! If you are new to the program, I hope this letter will help answer any questions you have. If you are returning to the program, this letter should look pretty familiar, however I hope it will serve as a refresher for how Edge works.

Our first Edge session will be held on **Sunday, October 1 at Saint Mary's Parish Center at 5:15 p.m.** We will conclude around 7:15 p.m., after Life Teen Mass (pick up will be at the church). **All other Edge sessions will be held at Saint Mary's Parish Center on Sundays from 4:15 to 5:45 p.m.** Attached to this letter is a schedule of dates for all of the Edge sessions. Edge sessions are held on Sundays to encourage students to attend the Life Teen Mass at 6 p.m. By holding class on Sunday prior to Life Teen Mass, the students are given the opportunity to go straight to Mass after Edge. This Mass is specifically geared toward young people and is intended to be their primary source for catechesis and faith development.

As the most fundamental expression of our Catholic faith, I want to stress how important it is that your child attends Mass each week. **Coming to Edge is not a replacement for going to Mass.** I need your help in making sure your children understand this idea. I would much rather your son or daughter come to Life Teen Mass, get involved in the liturgy every Sunday, and skip Edge, than come to Edge and skip Mass. If you ever have to choose between going to Mass or going to Edge, attending Mass should be the choice every time. **Life Teen Mass is held every Sunday at Saint Mary's at 6 p.m. and is the most vital part of the Edge program.**

I am still in search of a few parents who are willing to give up some of their time to volunteer with the Edge program. Edge sessions include some time in a small discussion group, which will be led by a CORI'd adult or teen. Being a volunteer is very easy. You already know more than you think by virtue of experience, and anything that you do not already know can be easily learned right along with the students. Your main role would consist more of moderating discussion and offering insight, than actually teaching new material. **If you have any interest in helping out, please send me an email at tim@lifeteensmash.com.**

Throughout the year, we will be relying on email and a text message service to alert you if classes need to be cancelled or special announcements need to be made. **We are requesting that all parents (and students with cell phones) sign up for this service by texting "@EdgeSMASH" to 81010** and then following the provided instructions. Your cooperation with this request is appreciated.

Edge is designed to be a supplement to the Life Teen program here at Saint Mary's and Saint Helen's. Life Teen is a comprehensive catechetical and faith development program aimed at teenagers. For more information on Life Teen, check out our website: LifeTeenSMASH.com. We run a number of events each month, which are listed in the bulletin and posted online. **Middle School students can attend any event that says "Middle School" or "MS,"** and all events are free unless otherwise noted.

If you have any questions at all (especially about being a volunteer), please do not hesitate to reach out to me at tim@lifeteensmash.com. I am excited for another year of Edge, and look forward to getting started on October 1!

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tim Habeeb". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Tim Habeeb

Youth Minister



2017 – 2018 Edge Schedule

SAINT MARY'S HANOVER SUNDAYS

4:15 p.m. – 5:45 p.m.

*On October 1, class will begin at 5:15 and end at 7:15 after Life Teen Mass

**Please note the revised date

(1) October 1, 2017*

(2) November 5, 2017

November 19 – HMC Super Sunday from 7 to 3 p.m. (more info soon)

(3) December 3, 2017

(4) December 17, 2017

(5) January 7, 2018

(6) January 28, 2018**

(7) February 11, 2018

(8) February 25, 2018

(9) March 11, 2018

(10) March 25, 2018

The first Edge session will be held on October 1 from 5:15 until 7:15. We will begin class at Saint Mary's Parish Center to introduce students to the Edge program. Class will end at Saint Mary's Church after Life Teen Mass. All other Edge sessions will be held at Saint Mary's Parish Center on Sundays from 4:15 to 5:45 p.m. We do take attendance at Edge, but there is no make-up work if a student misses class. **Edge students are strongly encouraged to attend Life Teen Mass every Sunday at Saint Mary's at 6 p.m. Life Teen Mass concludes around 7:15 p.m.** For more information about Edge, check us out online at LifeTeenSMASH.com/edge.

To join the Edge Text Alert System, text @EdgeSMASH to 81010.