

August 27, 2021

Youth Ministry Policy and Procedures 2021-22

I hope and pray that each of you had a wonderful and safe summer. I know I did, especially, with the birth of my first child, Joe. I am finally starting to understand why every parent says, being a parent is a full time job. :) A quote that comes to mind is from a movie, *About Time*, "No one can ever prepare you for what happens when you have a child. When you see the baby in your arms and you know that it's your job now. No one can prepare you for the love and the fear." From the bottom of my heart, I thank you for trusting me to help enrich and strengthen your child's relationship with our Lord during this year.

I am very excited for this youth ministry year. Sorry for the long email, Please read it in its entirety, even if you know the drill. Changes have been made.

Masks and Social Distancing

This year, for all Faith Formation (K-12) functions we must keep 3 feet social distance and masks are required to be worn by everyone, regardless if you have been vaccinated or not.

When and Where

Edge (7-8)- Will meet two Wednesdays a month at St. Patrick's Church from 6:30-8:00 PM

Life Teen (9-12)- Will usually meet two Sundays a month at St. Patrick's Church from 6:30-8:00 PM

9th Grade Confirmation- Classes will start in January and will usually be the last Sunday of the month at St. Patrick's Church from 6:30-8:00 PM. The Retreat will be all day on Saturday, April 30, 2022.

Attendance

For both Edge and Life Teen each teen is allowed to miss 2 nights per semester, without having to complete make-up work. The Fall Semester runs from September to December 31. The Spring Semester runs from January 1 to June. I understand that things can come up unexpectedly. However, I do ask that you make every effort to make sure that your child does not miss any nights, even if that means they have to carpool with someone.

For those 9th graders being confirmed, every class is required and the All Day retreat is Mandatory to be Confirmed.

Make-up Work

Make-up work will be posted on the webpage, for Edge (<https://romeroparish.org/edge>) for Life Teen (<https://romeroparish.org/lifeteen>). It will be your responsibility to complete the make-up work. I will not be sending out emails to those who have missed. **All make-up work must be submitted prior to the next Edge/Life Night.**

Flocknote

I will almost always send you an email via Flocknote the day before to remind you that we have Edge/Life Teen/Confirmation the next day. I will also be sending you an email the night of, with a write up of what we did that night, and with **Car Questions.**

Car Questions

Car questions are questions that are intended to start a conversation between you and your teen about what they just learned about. This will hopefully eliminate, Parent: "How was Edge/Life Teen?" Teen: "It was good"

An example of a car question, if the night was about the Saints. "What was one thing you learned about St. Monica?"

This is when your child takes what they learned about and makes it their own. Believe it or not, my goal is to have you as the parent learn just as much about the faith, as your child is. But your child will be teaching you.

Weekly Challenge

After every night we give the teens a weekly challenge. It can be something simple, as pray a decade of the Rosary. I will be sending out a google form each time, if your teen did the challenge, please have them fill out the form. We will be announcing the weekly challenge winners in the bulletin.

As always, please know of my prayers.

Sean