
A LEGACY

An Edge Night on the Last Things

Parent Letter

Dear Parents and Family,

The Edge Night this week began with an activity where the youth created a story that was acted out by their Core Members. The teaching discussed what happens after we die, particularly covering the topics of heaven, hell, and Purgatory. The youth then had an opportunity to learn about the life of a saint and discuss the qualities he or she showed that led him or her to heaven. The Edge Night ended by giving the youth an opportunity to light a candle and pray for people they know who have died and also learn a traditional prayer of the Church for souls in Purgatory by St. Gertrude the Great.

Main Ideas:

- Death is a reality of life. We will all die at some point in time, and none of us know when that will be. Death is the end of our earthly life; it is a natural event, but it is also the consequence of sin. (CCC 1001-1008)
- At the moment of our death, we will be judged by all the actions of our life; this is called particular judgement, and we will go either to heaven, hell, or Purgatory. (CCC 1021-1022)
- We, in the Church, are also given every advantage to help us to get to heaven. Through the sacraments we have all the grace we need to live a life with Christ now and to choose Him in this life.

Catechism Reference:

“Because of Christ, Christian death has a positive meaning: ‘For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.’ ‘The saying is sure: if we have died with him, we will also live with him.’ What is essentially new about Christian death is this: through Baptism, the Christian has already ‘died with Christ’ sacramentally, in order to live a new life; and if we die in Christ’s grace, physical death completes this ‘dying with Christ’ and so completes our incorporation into him in his redeeming act: ‘It is better for me to die in (eis) Christ Jesus than to reign over the ends of the earth. Him it is I seek - who died for us. Him it is I desire - who rose for us. I am on the point of giving birth. . . . Let me receive pure light; when I shall have arrived there, then shall I be a man.’” (CCC 1010)

Scripture Reference:

“For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.” (Romans 6:23)

Family Reflection Questions:

- What was your favorite part of the Edge Night this week? Why?
- What saint did you learn about?
- What good qualities did this saint have that led him or her to heaven?
- What did you learn about death tonight?
- Who did you pray for at the end of the night who has passed away?
- How can we overcome any fear of death by knowing the truth and hope for heaven?