**Edge Nights**

Edge Nights create the engaging, interactive setting for comprehensive catechesis within the middle school ministry at Our Lady of Mount Carmel. Edge provides catechetical lessons which will help each youth take on the World and enable them to “be more deeply rooted in the faith” as Pope Benedict XVI ask at World Youth Day.

As part of our chance of sharing and evangelization Edge Nights are the perfect opportunity for the students to invite their classmates, neighbors and cousins to church. Please encourage your son or daughter to invite anyone who seems interested in prayer and church!

 This year we will cover the Liturgical Year as we journey together starting with Ordinary Times and ending with Pentecost.

**Grade 6 Following Christ**

**THEME:** The blueprint for a life of love: the law of God, especially in the Ten Commandments, and the presence of Jesus in the Holy Mass. The interaction of the challenges of God's law and his gifts of grace that help us fulfill his law.

**SEQUENCE:** Part 1: The Ten Commandments. Forming the conscience and increasing closeness to God. Part 2: The Holy Mass. An emphasis on the Real Presence and Christ's sacrifice and explanation of the parts of the Mass. Part 3: The Last Things. Death and God's judgment of us, with an emphasis on the great happiness of Heaven.

**AIM:** To help the sixth grade student learn to love the law as Christ did and to cherish and love the Mass as our best prayer to God, and especially to revere and adore Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.

**Grade 7 - The Life of Grace**

**THEME**: Grace as our link with God, his gift to us to bring us to Himself and his eternal life, with an emphasis on transmission of grace through the seven sacraments and on God's loving gifts of revelation, of himself through the prophets, the Incarnation, and the Church. The role of grace in developing the virtues.

**SEQUENCE:**
Part 1: God Reveals Himself. The revelation of God through creation, the prophets, and to the chosen people. Part 2: God becomes Man. Jesus, true God and true Man, Priest and Sacrifice.
Part 3: God Shares His Life. The operation of grace in our lives, in developing the virtues especially through each sacrament.

**AIM:** To help the young person treasure the sacraments as indispensable to a full Christian life of love and truth. To understand how grace works in our soul and its relation to practicing the virtues and to appreciate our gifts of reason and faith

Grade Eight – First Part of the Year

***Encounter: Experiencing God in the Everyday Bible Study***

*Encounter: Experiencing God in the Everyday* is more than a Bible study program. It is a life-changing experience that speaks directly to the hearts and minds of middle school aged kids. Designed specifically for 6th to 8th grades, *Encounter* uses the color-coded Bible Timeline learning system to reveal the story of our faith and God’s plan for our lives. As your students are drawn into this story they will come to a new and profound understanding of who God is. Most importantly they will see God not as a distant doctrinal concept, but as a loving Father who desires a meaningful and lasting encounter with them.

In *Encounter* Your Students Will:

* Be drawn into the amazing story that ties all of Scripture together.
* Experience God’s love for them in a profound way, and see him as a part of their daily lives.
* Discover the meaning of their faith, and the purpose God has for them.
* Learn how the Old Testament prefigures, prepares for, and prophesies the coming of the Messiah.
* See Jesus as the awaited Messiah who established the Catholic Church to continue his saving mission on earth.
* Witness the power of the Sacraments and the Mass as real encounters with God

...and much more!

**Grade Eight – Second Part of the Year**

**Theology of the Body for Teens: Middle School Edition**

*by* [*Brian Butler*](http://ascensionpress.com/presenters/brian-butler)*, Jason Evert, Colin and Aimee MacIver*

There is little doubt that pre-teens are in an often confusing time of quest and discovery, especially with issues concerning their bodies, their sexuality, and their future. There are countless sources - from the airwaves, to peers, to the Internet - ready to provide answers.

Specifically designed for 6th through 8th grades, it too uses a great mix of stories, real-life examples, activities, prayers, and references to the culture that are relevant to lives of the youth.

*Theology of the Body for Teens: Middle School Edition* answers questions such as:

* Who am I?
* Are there consequences to my actions?
* What is the difference between love and lust?
* How do I balance family, friends, school, God, music, TV, internet, texting, etc., in my daily life?
* How can I discern my vocation to marriage, priesthood, or religious life?
* How do I deal with bullying, gossip, peer pressure, pornography, divorce, etc?
* Can I live my Catholic faith no matter how I messed up in the past?