
LIFE IN THE FIRE

An Edge Night on the Structure of the Church

Parent Letter

Dear Parents and Family,

This week at Edge your son or daughter learned about St. Vincent Pallotti. They played a game where they were challenged to figure out who the leader of the game was. The teaching focused on the structure of the Church and how the roles of the hierarchy and laity help carry out the mission of the Church. The youth then built a web to see how everyone is connected. The Edge Night ended with prayerful, silent journaling.

For more support in your journey as a parent be sure to check out our Parent Life website at ltparentlife.com!

Main Ideas:

- Structure is important for many areas of our lives, and structure is important for the Church. Jesus gave the Church a specific purpose and mission to accomplish, but He also gave the Church a specific structure so that these things could be accomplished. (CCC 874)
- The hierarchy was established first by Jesus, who gave Peter the role of leading the Church and, along with the other apostles, His authority to forgive sins, lead, and govern His people in the faith. (CCC 875-887, CCC 976-983, Matthew 16:18)
- The hierarchy is not the only structure that is essential to the Church to accomplish her mission and purpose — the laity are also an essential part of the Church.

Catechism Reference:

“The Christian faithful are those who, inasmuch as they have been incorporated in Christ through Baptism, have been constituted as the people of God; for this reason, since they have become sharers in Christ’s priestly, prophetic, and royal office in their own manner, they are called to exercise the mission which God has entrusted to the Church to fulfill in the world, in accord with the condition proper to each one.” (CCC 871)

Scripture Reference:

“And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the powers of death shall not prevail against it.” (Matthew 16:18)

Family Reflection Questions:

- Why is it important for most things to have a leader?
- Why is it important for the Church to have a clear leader?
- What role do you play in the Church?