IHM Youth Ministry, EDGE, LIFE and Confirmation, is back in person starting this Sunday! Through prayer, the continued effort and actions of people like yourselves and others in our wonderful community, and the leadership here and in our diocese, we have been given the green light to resume In-Person Youth Ministry with some restrictions and updates, which I will get to. We are very blessed to have the opportunity to go back in person in some capacity. While the highschool LIFE Nights have been meeting in Adoration, we have been solely online for our Middle School EDGE Nights. We have made the most of both these situations through heavily modified talks, small groups and activities, and we look forward to applying these new styles to each and every night. With coming back to In-Person Youth Ministry, we have new guidelines to keep the students and team members safe. If you are interested in our 5 Step Plan for Safety and Community, please read the next page as it will have all pertinent details. I hope to see you all there as we resume EDGE and LIFE Nights.

In Christ,
John Maxwell

--

John Maxwell | Director of Youth Ministry | Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish | 1935 Plymouth SE | Grand Rapids, MI 49506 | (616) 241-4477

For more updates, check out our Social Medias:

Instagram: IHM.Youth.Group

Facebook: John Maxwell (Youth Group Logo)

EDGE Night SignUpGenius:

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B4CA5AA2AA3F58-edge

With Coming Back in Person, here is how our the nights will look to keep everyone safe:

- 1 Currently, there is a SignUpGenius for EDGE Nights only, link above or on the website. At all nights there will be a maximum of 24 students. This is truly a hard maximum. People who use the Sign up Genius will get first priority then we can fill up to that 24 cap. After that, as much as I don't want to say it, we will have to refer those who can't make it in person to join in via Zoom. All EDGE Nights will still be Zoomed for those unable to attend the due to the 24 person cap, links will be attached via email and the website
- 2 We will have a Sign In Table outside the Hearts and Hands door on the parking lot side. At this table we will sign in students, check temperatures and make sure that the students are wearing PPE, and lastly guide them to the proper room. The Students will be filtered in the students in the same format as the EDGE Kickoff, first the Upper Room (8), then the Hearts Room (8), the finally Hands Room (8). Each room will have access for social distancing and separate restrooms.
- 3 During the students entering, it will be a time of socialization and small group activities such as Electronic (for those via Zoom), Table, Board or Card games. IHM YM will still provide individually packed snacks and drinks.
- 4 After things are set to go we may play a short game, participate in a group activity, stretch our legs outside with an activity when the weather warms or go straight into the talk and small group. Talks will be Zoomed to each room from the Hearts Room on the same link as those tuning in from home. Small groups will also be maintained in the same rooms. Students Zooming in will join an appropriate group based on the amount of students joined and those attending in person. Some nights we also may spend some time in the church for Adoration, prayer groups, and/ or praise nights.
- 5 To end the night, we will filter out opposite of how the students entered (Hands then Heart then Upper). We plan to end slightly before 8:30 to make this work as smoothly as possible and get everyone home as safe and healthy as they came.

I am excited for this next step and I hope to see everyone again in person and through masks. God Bless.

John