

MY NEIGHBOR

An Edge Night on Social Justice

Parent Letter

Dear Parents and Family,

This week at Edge, your son or daughter got to participate in an activity to explore our similarities and differences. The teaching presented the basic concepts of social justice, human dignity, and the importance of solidarity. The youth then had an opportunity to take a look at different ways they can help people in need and explore what it means to be a modern day Good Samaritan. At the end of the Edge Night the youth prayed for people in need and thought about how they can make positive changes in the lives of those people.

Main Ideas:

- Society at large is responsible for upholding the rights and dignity of humankind. It should ensure and provide conditions for the human person to live his or her life in accord with his or her dignity and vocation. This is a part of what we call “social justice” which ensures that the common good is upheld by the proper exercise of authority. (CCC 1928)
- The problems in society that leave people on the fringes or without enough to survive can only be solved through solidarity between all people from all walks of life. (CCC 1941)
- As baptized Christians, we are all a part of God’s family, and, therefore, we are brothers and sisters in Christ. Since we are all brothers and sisters, Jesus calls us to love one another, encourage one another, and build one another up.

Catechism Reference:

“Society ensures social justice when it provides the conditions that allow associations or individuals to obtain what is their due, according to their nature and their vocation. Social justice is linked to the common good and the exercise of authority.” (CCC 1928)

Scripture Reference:

“And the King will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me.’” (Matthew 25:40)

Family Reflection Questions:

- Where do all human beings get their dignity and worth? Can it ever be taken away? Why?
- What are we supposed to do when we see other people who are in need or are lacking in the basic needs for daily life?
- Why is it important to also care for people spiritually?
- What does it mean that we are all a part of the body of Christ?
- What can we do as a family to help those in need?