The name of Jesus is powerful. This name identifies the One who is God and became man to save us all from our sins and to make us adoptive children of God. Jesus is the eternal Son of God, the second person of the divine Trinity. (CCC 422-424)

The name of Jesus is Hebrew and literally means “God saves,” and He is the one who saves all His people from their sins. Christ, which means “anointed,” is another name associated with Jesus because Jesus is the Anointed One who was sent to carry out the divine mission of God. Another popular title for Jesus is Lord. Lord comes from the Hebrew name for God, “YHWH,” which reveals that Jesus is in fact God Himself. (CCC 430-451, Matthew 1:21)

Jesus is God, and He became man. But why? Why would the God of the universe become one of us?

The Church teaches four main reasons for the Incarnation, the first being that God became man to save us and reconcile us with God. Secondly, Jesus became man to show us the great love that God has for us. Thirdly, He became man to be an example of holiness for us and to show us how to live a holy life. Finally, Jesus became a man to make it possible for humanity to partake in God’s divinity so that we might become like Him. (CCC 457-460)

One of the greatest mysteries about Jesus’ identity is the reality that He is both fully human and fully God. He had a human body, a human will, and a human intellect but was, at the same time, fully God and the divine second person of the Trinity. This is called the hypostatic union. (CCC 461-464)

God loves us. He became one of us out of sheer love and desire to free us from the slavery and darkness of sin. He is fully God and can save us but is, at the same time, fully human and can console us because He knows what it is like to be human. Jesus Christ “has loved us all with a human heart” (CCC 478). It is important for us to realize the great love Jesus has for each of us individually and to share that love with the youth that we serve so that they may always follow Him. (John 14:6)
EDGE NIGHT OVERVIEW

GOAL

The goal of this Edge Night is to introduce the semester with a fun social night where the youth will also learn about Jesus Christ.

SUMMARY

The Edge Night begins with Gather activities including a funny king skit, rotating kingdom themed games, and small group banner making. The Proclaim outlines the meaning of the main titles of Jesus, the reality of His existence as fully God and fully man, and the reason Jesus became one of us. The combined Break and Send ends the Edge Night with a time of prayer for personal intentions.

MAIN IDEAS

- Jesus was not a typical king by the standards of the world. He lived His life differently than earthly kings, yet He is given the titles King of Kings, Lord of Lords, and Christ the King.
- What is most remarkable about Jesus, the God who saves — the Anointed One — is that He is fully God and fully man. (CCC 461-464)
- Jesus is our great King who comes to save us and also comes to show us how to live our lives so that we will find the greatest happiness.

ENVIRONMENT

Create the base environment that will be added to throughout the following Edge Nights. Make a throne room at the front of your meeting space by placing a large chair on top of an elevated platform that is draped in gold or purple fabric. Cover or upholster the throne with either gold or purple fabric as well. Buy or make a golden staff and crown. Tilt the staff against the chair and either put the crown on the seat or ring it around one of the top corners of the chair. Use either red fabric or a red carpet to make a path up to the throne. Along the ceiling above the throne, hang dangling lights to add sparkle to throne room. Project the environment image from the August 2017 Edge USB also found online at lifeteen.com under Edge Support: August 2017 along the back wall behind the throne.

Before the Edge Night, create the small groups and give each small group a title of Jesus. Then create corresponding nametags for the youth with the titles of Jesus on them and hand them out at the beginning of the Edge Night to signify to the youth which small group they are in.

The following are a few examples of titles of Jesus. Also use these titles, scripture verses, and explanations during the small group discussion.

King of Kings (Revelation 19:16)

- Jesus is the greatest of all kings, but His Kingdom is not of this earth and He is a king like no other. He opens the Kingdom of heaven for us which is the eternal Kingdom that we were all destined for.
King of the Ages (Revelation 15:3)
  • Jesus is the King of all ages, meaning He always was the King, He presently is the King, and He will always be the King. His reign is constant and eternal.

King of Peace (Hebrews 7:2)
  • Through His death, Jesus reconciled humankind with God and calls all of us to unity together as a people and to unity with God — the fruit of both are true and lasting peace.

King of the Jews (Matthew 2:2)
  • Jesus is the Messiah that the Jews had always been waiting for. He is proclaimed the King of the Jews at the beginning of His life and when He was crucified they placed a sign over His head that read “King of the Jews.”

King of Glory (Psalm 24:7)
  • Jesus rose triumphantly from the dead. He was victorious and glorified through His suffering and death. He ascended into heaven in all His glory and will come again gloriously at the end of time to bring the Kingdom of heaven to earth.

Lord of All (Acts 10:36)
  • Jesus is the Lord of all, He has power over everything. He was there at the beginning of creation and will be there at the end of time, and He oversees all things. He is also the Lord of all humanity, and we are called to be His sons and daughters.

Light of the World (John 8:12)
  • Light is a symbol of life — Jesus is the light of the world, and those who follow Him will have eternal life. They will never walk in darkness (or rejection of God) but will follow the light (life with Christ) and have eternal life.

MEDIA
  “Shout of the King,” by Matt Maher (Alive Again, 2009, Paul Moak)
  Rend Collective: “Rend Collective - Build Your Kingdom Here OFFICIAL” (youtube.com)
  Audrey Assad: “Audrey Assad - Be Thou My Vision Official Music Video” (youtube.com)
  Albert Martin: “That’s My King Dr. S. M. Lockridge” (youtube.com)

SCRIPTURE
  Matthew 1:21; John 15:13; Revelation 15:3-4, 17:14

CATECHISM
  422-424, 441-45, 457-478
GATHER

“King’s Paper” Skit (10 min)

Use the following skit as a fun way to open the Edge Night. Choose one Core Member to be the king and have him sit on the throne at the front of the room. The king calls to the other Core Members, who act as court members, to bring him his royal papers. One Core Member runs in with a large roll of butcher paper, but the king sends him or her away agitated. The king again demands that his royal papers are brought to him. One by one the Core Members bring a variety of papers to him — a book, a map, a song hymnal, a pile of mail, a magazine, etc. — each time the king sends him or her away agitated. The king demands again, even more angrily, that someone brings his royal papers. At this point a Core Member comes in with a roll of toilet paper, and the king is overjoyed; he knights this Core Member and runs off stage.

Edge Night Introduction (5 min)

Welcome the youth, and begin in prayer. Give a brief overview of the topic of the Edge Night using the following as an example:

*Jesus Christ is the greatest King of all. He did not live a life like a typical earthly king, but His great love and power were much greater than any king who has ever lived. Jesus is fully man and fully God which makes Him the King of all Kings. He loves us so much that He became one of us to show us the way to live our lives so that we will find true happiness. He calls us to His great love and to let Him be the King of our lives.*

Going Around the Kingdom (25 min)

Break the youth into their small groups according to their name tags and titles of Jesus. This will be their small group for the entirety of the eight Edge Nights in this series. Once the youth are in their small groups, take some time to get to know one another — such as learning names, schools, favorite thing about Edge, favorite ways to spend free time, etc.

Once the youth in the small groups have had time to get to know each other, pair two small groups together and then rotate them through each activity. This is best done outside or in a large gym.

Kings and Queens of the Crate

This game is played as a competition between two small groups.

1. Put out two crates, one for each small group.
2. Challenge each small group to get their entire group on the crate at the same time. Every person must be on the crate somehow and no one can be touching the ground.
3. The first small group to do this gets a prize.
4. If both small groups catch onto this quickly, the small group that can stay on the crate the longest wins.

**Photo Booth**

Use the environment set up at the front of the room as the background for the small group picture. Have royalty themed props for the youth to wear such as crowns, jewels, robes, scrolls, beards, wigs, hats, feather boas, etc. Each youth and the Core Members in the small group should dress up to some capacity and all pose around the throne. Give each small group time to take pictures, then rotate. Print off the photos and frame them in gold frames to add to the environment at the next Edge Night.

**Jewel Hunt**

This game is played as a small group competition.

1. Set up a tarp at one end of the room with two buckets of sand on it.
2. In each bucket of sand, bury at least ten plastic jewels.
3. Each small group will have a turn to race one at a time to the sand bucket. The youth must find one jewel, take it out of the sand, place it next to the bucket, and then race back to their team and tag the next player.
4. The small group to find all of the jewels the fastest wins.
5. If there are more jewels than small group members, they keep on cycling through their line until all the jewels are found.

**Crown Making**

Provide enough cardstock for each youth. Provide markers, crayons, stickers, jewels, glue and other items for the youth to decorate their crowns. The youth can use scissors to cut out their crowns. Consider providing a stencil or printing an outline of the crown on the cardstock. Give a prize to the largest, most creative, or most outrageous crowns. Also consider having floral crowns available to make as an option for the girls.

**Royal Banners (15 min)**

After the youth have finished their rotating stations, explain that they have been given a particular name of Jesus as their group name. As a small group, read the corresponding Scripture verse(s) where this title is mentioned. Briefly discuss the title of Jesus, what it means, and why it is important using the information given in the environment section. Then create a small group banner based off of this title of Jesus to be the small group banner for the rest of the semester.

After praying a closing prayer at the end of any small group time, be sure to invoke Jesus by the name your group has. For example “Jesus, King of Kings, save us” or “Jesus, our great Teacher, save us.”

If time allows, have each small group share their banner and their title of Jesus with the rest of the group.

**SUGGESTIONS**

The banners can be made out of paper or fabric. Also purchase a banner stand or create one out of PVC piping so that the banners can be on stands to designate small group meeting spaces throughout the series.
**PROCLAIM**

“Long Live the King” Teaching (5 min)

This teaching can be found on pages 22 to 23.

**BREAK / SEND**

**Jesus, My King (15 min)**

Have the youth form a large circle and instruct them to think of a petition to share during the closing prayer. Have a small crucifix to pass around during the closing prayer. Set the tone by dimming the lights and use the following as an example to lead the prayer:

*Jesus Christ allows us to have a personal relationship with God through prayer. We are able to enter into this relationship in a powerful way by praying “in the name of Jesus.” The name of Jesus “contains all” for through Jesus all of humankind was reconciled to God, and through Jesus becoming one of us we are able to know God in a whole new way. To pray with the name Jesus is to call upon Him, and His name is the only name that contains the presence it signifies. Meaning that He is present when we say His name. (CCC 2664-2669)*

*So let us together make the Sign of the Cross and call up on this great name of Jesus.*

*In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.*

*Jesus, you are King of Kings and Lord of All. We trust in your power which is above all other powers. Your Death and Resurrection was the greatest sign of your power and of your love. We turn to you, knowing you hear our cries and bring all of our prayers to Our Heavenly Father.*

*Our response will be: “Jesus, my King, I trust in You.”*

Starting with a Core Member, each person will name a petition, then pass on the crucifix. End the time of prayer by praying an Our Father together.

**SUGGESTIONS**

If your group is too large, you can consider doing closing prayer in small groups instead. Also consider putting a large crucifix at the front of the room and having any youth speak out loud as they desire rather than passing around the crucifix.

Notes:

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________
GETTING STARTED

To cover the basic information follow along and craft the talk based off of the bullet points. If your youth are ready to take it deeper, start incorporating a few of the Going Deeper call out boxes (like the one below) by picking the ones your youth would relate to the most.

GOING DEEPER
Check inside these boxes for tips and ideas on how to take your youth a little deeper with the Proclaim.

KING OF KINGS

- **Ask the youth to respond:** What do you think of when you think of a king?
- **Ask the youth to respond:** What do you think of when you think of Jesus?
- Jesus was not a typical king by the standards of the world. He lived His life differently than earthly kings yet He is given the titles King of Kings, Lord of Lords, and Christ the King.
- The type of king we see in Jesus is not what the people of His time expected either, which is precisely why many people missed that Jesus was the Messiah.
- So who is Jesus this great king?
- **Project an image of Christ the King.**
- Jesus is the second person of the Trinity who came to save each of you. When you were baptized, you became His adopted children. This makes each of you a prince or princess. (CCC 422-424, 460)
- There are many different titles for Jesus, but there are three names that we hear most often associated with Him.
- **As each part is explained, project the words and definition:** Jesus — “God saves,” Christ — “Anointed,” and Lord — “YHWH.”
- The literal meaning of Jesus’ name is “God saves,” and we know Jesus saved us from our sins, which gains for us the opportunity of eternal life with God the Father in heaven. (CCC 430-433)
- Jesus also has the title Christ, which translates as “anointed.” Traditionally, kings are anointed. Jesus was anointed by God Himself to carry out His divine mission. (CCC 441-445)
- Another title of Jesus is Lord, which comes from the Hebrew word for God “YHWH” (Yahweh). This shows us that Jesus is God. (CCC 446-451)
KING OF POWER

- What is most remarkable about Jesus the God who saves — the Anointed One — is that He is fully God and fully man. (CCC 461-464)
- Jesus is a King who has eternal power but also complete sympathy and compassion for all of us because He knows what it is like to be human and was a very humble king.
- Ask the youth to respond: Why do you think Jesus was a humble king and not a rich and showy king? How does this affect His relationship with us?
- Jesus had a human body, a human will, a human intellect, and loved us with a human heart. Yet, at the same time, He was fully God as the divine second person of the Trinity. (CCC 470-473)

KING OF LOVE

- Ask the youth to respond: Why do you think that Jesus became man? What is the funniest human thing for you to imagine Jesus doing (picking His nose as a toddler, snoring, stubbing His toe, etc.)?
- Jesus became one of us to save us and reconcile us to God. That means, by His death on the cross, He repaired our relationship with God that had been broken by sin. (CCC 457)
- Jesus became a man to show us how much God loves us. And Jesus reveals this great love through every aspect of His life. (CCC 458)
- Jesus became human so that we could partake in His divine life. Through the Sacrament of Baptism, we become sons and daughters of God, and through all the sacraments, the Church, and our personal relationship with Jesus, we share in this divine life. The fullness of this divine life is also waiting for us in eternity in heaven. (CCC 459)
- Jesus is our great King who comes to save us and also comes to show us how to live our lives so that we will find the greatest happiness.
- You would not be sitting in this room right now if Jesus didn’t love you. His love, quite literally, holds you in existence right here and right now.
- There is no better king than Jesus Christ our King. His heart longs for you. Will you love Jesus back?
- Project the words to the prayer challenge: “Jesus, I invite You to be the King of my heart.”
- Challenge the youth to respond to the love of Christ the King by spending at least five minutes silently in prayer reflecting on the love of God. Then, when they are ready, challenge them to say the words, “Jesus, I invite You to be the King of my heart.”

Notes:

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________