Edge: Eternal Kingdom (Week of Feb. 14 and Feb. 21) On the Second Coming and Last Judgement

"Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth. The former heaven and the former earth had passed away, and the sea was no more." -Revelation 21:1

GATHER—With two to four players, play the card game "War".

- HOW-TO: The goal is to be the first player to win all 52 cards
- THE DEAL: The deck (or decks if you have more than two players) is divided evenly among the players, dealt one at a time, keeping the cards face down. Each player places their stack of cards face down, in front of them.
- THE PLAY: Each player turns up a card at the same time and the player with the higher card takes both cards and puts them, face down, on the bottom of his stack. **If the cards are the same rank, it is War.** Players place three cards face down, and at the same time turn over the third card. If the turned-up cards are again the same rank, another round is played. *If you are using two decks, use the color/design on the back, determine the 'higher' rank before play begins*.
- HOW TO KEEP SCORE: The game ends when one player has won all the cards.

CONNECT: In the card game, each player anticipates what may happen as the cards are turned. But it is unknown until it actually happens. Our future, and the future of the world is the same. What will the end times be like? How will Jesus come again? Amy takes a look at some of these questions and more in her proclaim The Second Coming and Last Judgement

EXPLORE: Main Points to Take Away

- Jesus dwells always with us through the Church, but He will come again at the end of time and overcome suffering and evil once and for all. We do not know the hour that He will come but when He does we will know that it is Him.
- At the Last Judgment, our bodies will be resurrected, the truth of every single human's relationship will be laid bare before all as well as all the consequences of his or her good and bad actions, and everyone will then go to either heaven or hell for all eternity.
- The universe will be redeemed, God will dwell with humanity, and there will be complete unity of the human race with God. All will live with Christ in a holy city where there is no longer division or suffering, and all experience complete and utter happiness, peace, and love.

Discussion from Amy's Proclaim

Amy made a point of how we can recognize Jesus through acts of service, the Word of God and the sacraments. How have you experienced seeing or feeling Jesus' presence through any of those three things?

Journal: *End of the World*

- Discuss: Why do you think there are so many movies that show an end of the world type scenario?
- Give time for teens to draw or talk about what/who they will see in Heaven on page 8 of their booklet.
- How is the Christian idea of the end of the world different from the world/fictional stories show?
- If Jesus were to come today, how would you react?

REFLECT

Be Ready or Get Ready

Open your Bibles and read together Matthew 24:42-44.

We like to live our lives thinking about tomorrow, putting things off until later. But we aren't guaranteed tomorrow and there are some things that are too important to put off until later. God wants a relationship with you NOW, not later. He wants a relationship with you NOW, not when you've grown up. He wants to show you His perfect and most fulfilling plan for your life NOW, not when you think you're ready for it.

Talk together about ways to prepare for the coming of Jesus. Ideas could be going to confession, praying intentionally, reading the Gospels/the Bible as a way to know more about God. Take time to fill in the last part of page 8.

LIVE IT

It's Lent! There is no better time to focus on preparing for Jesus. Share with at least one other person one of the ways you want to better prepare for Jesus to come again. Hold each other accountable!