

Knights of Columbus – Faith in Action (Community)
Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest 2023

Program Goal:

The goal of the Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest is to give students an opportunity to define the role of a Catholic citizen in many different scenarios, and to strengthen the bond between the Knights of Columbus and local schools.

Eligibility:

The Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest is open to all Catholic students in grades 8 to 12 during the 2023-24 school year.

2023 - 2024 Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest Theme:

Pope St. Paul VI wrote: “The task of evangelizing all people constitutes the essential mission of the Church.”

In an essay of 500-750 words, **How can the Church evangelize in the digital age?**

In Biblical times, the only way to “carry” good news was to bring it physically, walking from one place to another. Technological advances, however, have opened up numerous additional communication channels, all of which we can use to amplify the rate at which we spread the Word. – Romans 10:14-15

Guidelines:

Essay must reflect the assigned theme and be the student’s **original** work.

Content specification: 500-750 words, typed in double spacing, using font “Times New Roman” font size “12”, printed single side on a white sheet of paper A4 (8.5’ x 11’) size. Please submit **3** copies, stapled individually, of the essay.

The student’s name should appear on the official Catholic Citizenship Essay entry form provided by the Knights of Columbus, which must be stapled to one of the essays and in an envelope (do not fold the printed essay).

All entries become the property of the Knights of Columbus and will not be returned.

Submission Deadline & Delivery:

Sunday, December 10th, 2023 at 2:30 pm

Ref: Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest Attn: Carlo Agostino (905-755-9166)
St. Francis Xavier Church Parish Office
Knights of Columbus Council # 12067
St. Francis Xavier Parish, 5650 Mavis Road, Mississauga, ON, L5V 2N6
905-890-5290

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Judging Criteria:

Essay will be judged on a 100-point scoring system

Content: 35 points

How clearly is the theme presented?

Grammar: 30 points

Does the essay reflect proper sentence and paragraph structure and utilize correct spelling?

Style: 35 points

Does the essay show creativity, imagination and development of the topic in a compelling style?

Awards: *(for each Division)*

Winners will be announced on **Sunday December 17th, 2023.**

1st Prize: \$100 cash

2nd Prize: \$75 cash

3rd Prize: \$50 cash

Catholic Citizenship

Essay Contest

Entry Form

I wish to enter the KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CATHOLIC CITIZENSHIP ESSAY CONTEST in the division checked below. I realize that my entry becomes property of the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council Office.

8TH GRADE
 9TH GRADE
 10TH GRADE
 11TH GRADE
 12TH GRADE

COUNCIL NUMBER _____

Note: this same form must be used for the Council, District and Jurisdiction Competition – please be sure it is passed on accordingly.

Name of Entrant _____ Date of Birth _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State/Province _____ Postal Code _____

Parent/Guardian Telephone (Circle one: Home Cell) _____ Email _____ Signature of Entrant _____

This Section To Be Completed By Parent/Guardian:

Council No. _____

The undersigned hereby request and approve the Entrant's registration and participation in the KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CATHOLIC CITIZENSHIP ESSAY CONTEST. In consideration of such registration and participation, the undersigned hereby agree to hold the Knights of Columbus Supreme Council and any of its subordinate units and their officers, members, agents and employees, blameless and without liability, and hereby agree to release, indemnify and hold harmless all of the above mentioned from any and all claims and expenses resulting from or relating to Entrant's said participation. Parent or guardian must sign this form before entrant competes.

Parent/Guardian

Date signed

This Section To Be Completed Knights of Columbus Officials:

Score Sheet

SCORING INSTRUCTIONS: A 100-point scoring system is used to determine winners. Information on Rules and Judging are on other side of this form.

Competition Level	Content – 35 points	Grammar – 30 points	Style – 35 points
Council Total: _____			
District/Regional Total: _____			
Jurisdictional Total: _____			
International Level Total: _____			

(See other side for instructions)



RULES

Essays must reflect the assigned theme and be the student's original work.

Essays must be typed and be between 500 and 750 words in length.

The student's name should appear only on the official Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest entry form, which must be stapled to the essay.

All entries become the property of the Knights of Columbus and will not be returned.

JUDGING

Judges (three or more) will be selected by the sponsoring Knights of Columbus council, assembly or circle. Council and/or assembly members, teachers, clergy, civil officials and/or members of the community may serve as judges.

A **100-point scoring system** will be used to determine the winner.

35 Points: Content — How thoroughly is the topic examined?

30 Points: Grammar — How well is the essay written with respect to sentence and paragraph construction?

35 Points: Style — Does the essay show creativity, imagination and development of the topic in a logical and compelling style?

Council's Contact Information

Councils should retain a copy of this completed form for their files