



The Saints Simon & Jude Knights of Columbus are sponsoring the 2022 Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest to all 8th grade students of the Saints Simon & Jude Parish. The essay contest is a creative way to encourage young people to become citizens who are firmly grounded in the Catholic Faith. The theme of the essay contest is **“Evangelizing our faith to those who have turned away from religion”** The contest opens the doors of young minds, enabling the entrants to be creative, thoughtful and introspective in their work.

[OFFICIAL ESSAY CONTEST ENTRY FORM](#)

TIMELINE

- October 10th (Columbus Day) – Start of essay contest
- November 18th – All entries are due. Entries should be postmarked by Nov 17th.
- Mid December – Announcement of contest winners

THEME

This year the Knights of Columbus Catholic Citizenship Essay contest prompt is:

“Evangelizing our faith to those who have turned away from religion”

In an essay of 500- 750 words, explain how young Catholics can evangelize our faith to families and friends who have turned away from religion and encourage them to return to the Church and embrace the sacraments.

“Here on earth, it’s impossible to perform a more meritorious act than visiting Jesus often in the Eucharist. If you took all of the good works done by all of the humans who have ever lived in all of history and stacked them all up and multiplied them by a million, they wouldn’t equal the merit, the virtue, and the worth of one Mass. The Eucharistic sacrifice is Christ’s infinite merit, infinite value.” – St Teresa of Avila

GUIDELINES

- 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 require consent from the student's parent or guardian and become the property of the Knights of Columbus and will not be returned.

ELIGIBILITY

The Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest is open to all Catholic students of the Saints Simon & Jude Parish– in public, private or parochial schools – enrolled in 8th Grade during the current school year.

JUDGING

Essays will be judged on a 100-point scoring system:

- 35 points: Content – How clearly is the theme presented?
- 30 points: Grammar – How well is the essay written with respect to sentence structure, paragraph construction and spelling?
- 35 points: Style – Does the essay show creativity, imagination and development of the topic in a compelling style?

AWARDS

The top three winners will receive monetary awards. Awards are accompanied by an official certificate from the Grand Knight. Certificates of participation are also awarded to all entrants.

TO ENTER

To enter your essay, please complete the Essay Entry Form, staple the form to the essay, and mail to:

Mr. Joseph Gothie
Community Director
SSJ Knights of Columbus
405 Patriots Path
Malvern, PA 19355



**Knights of
Columbus®**