



**Knights of Columbus
Council #3428
North Arlington, NJ**



The 2020 Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest Open to Grades 8 to 12 Students in Parochial, Public, or Private Schools

THEME: How Trusting in God Can Help You Through Difficult Times.

The Covid-19 health crisis has plunged our families, our communities, our nation, and the world into one of the most difficult times that we have ever experienced in our lifetimes. Sickness, long lines of testing, prolonged hospital stays with much rehabilitation, the loss of loved ones, long lines at stores because of shortages of food and cleaning items, remote learning, unemployment and the uncertainty of not knowing when this will all end have change our daily way of life.

Write an essay about the challenges in trying to live day by day with Covid-19 pandemic. Discuss how trusting in God has helped you or someone you know find the strength and hope to endure it. Consider sharing any lessons about faith and hope you or someone you know may have learned from this experience.

GUIDELINES:

- Essays must reflect the assigned theme and be the student's original work.
- Essays must be **typed on 8½" x 11" paper, one sided, double spaced with 1 inch margins, and be between 500 and 750 words in length.**
- The student's name should appear only on the official entry form, which must be stapled to the essay.
- All entries **become property of the Knights of Columbus and will not be returned.**

 **Please turn over.**

JUDGING: Essays will be judged on a 100 point scoring system.

35 points for Content - How clearly is the theme presented?

30 points for Grammar - How well is the essay written with respect to proper sentence structure and paragraph construction, and correct spelling?

35 points for Style - Does the essay show creativity, imagination, and development of the topic in a compelling style?

PRIZES: The First Place Winner in each Grade Level will get a \$50 cash card, and the 2nd and 3rd place finishers in each Grade Level will each receive a \$25 cash card.

SIGN-UP:

Please print out the included entry form, fill it out, have your Parent/Guardian sign it, and staple it to your essay when you hand it in.

DEADLINE: All Essays are due by **Tuesday, October 13, 2020**
and can be dropped off at the
Columbian Club Hall
194 River Road
North Arlington, NJ
from 7:00pm to 8:0pm.

For further information, please call 201-988-0183.

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 **3428**

Name of Entrant _____ Date of Birth _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State/Province _____ Postal Code _____

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

This Section To Be Completed By Parent/Guardian:

Council No. **3428**

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

Bill Mackey, Grand Knight

201-988-0183

Email a copy of this document to: fraternalmission@kofc.org
(Councils should also retain a copy of this completed form for their files)