

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
CHAPTER ESSAY CONTEST 2025
GRADES 8-12

1. THE CHAPTER WEBSITE HAS LINKS TO THE FILES FOR ALL THE MATERIALS YOU NEED TO RUN THIS CONTEST.

2. SET UP YOUR ESSAY CONTEST AT THE COUNCIL LEVEL

3. **2025 Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest Theme:**

This contest encourages today's youth to be more connected to their community and their faith.

Virtue is a habitual and firm disposition to do good. It governs our acts, orders our passions, and guides our conduct by reason and faith. It also encourages Christians to live in a relationship with the Holy Trinity. The call to live a virtuous life applies to individuals in every state of life and occupation, including our elected leaders.

In an essay of 500-750 words, what are the two most important virtues for an elected leader to possess, and why? How can you determine if the leader has these virtues?

1. Essays must reflect the assigned theme and be the student's original work.
2. Essays must be typed and be between 500 and 750 words in length.
3. The student's name should appear only on the official Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest entry form, which must be stapled to the essay.

4. All entries become the property of the Knights of Columbus and will not be returned.
5. Judging will be based on content, grammar, and style.

4. SELECT YOUR FIRST PLACE WINNER AT THE COUNCIL LEVEL AND FORWARD THAT ESSAY TO:

Don Grishaw
2372 Roseborough Ct.
Turlock, CA 95382

5. ALL 1st PLACE COUNCIL LEVEL ESSAYS MUST BE **RECEIVED BY JANUARY 15, 2025** FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE CHAPTER LEVEL.

6. THE FIRST PLACE WINNER AT THE CHAPTER LEVEL WILL RECEIVE A CHECK FOR \$50 FROM THE CHAPTER AND THIS ESSAY WILL BE AUTOMATICALLY ENTERED INTO THE STATE ESSAY CONTEST FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION AND AWARDS.

Many thanks in advance,

Don Grishaw
Chairman, Knights of Columbus Essay Contest, Chapter Level
Knights of Columbus Council #2557
2372 Roseborough Ct.
Turlock, CA 95382
Cell 209-620-0968
e-mail: dcgrishaw@gmail.com

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.

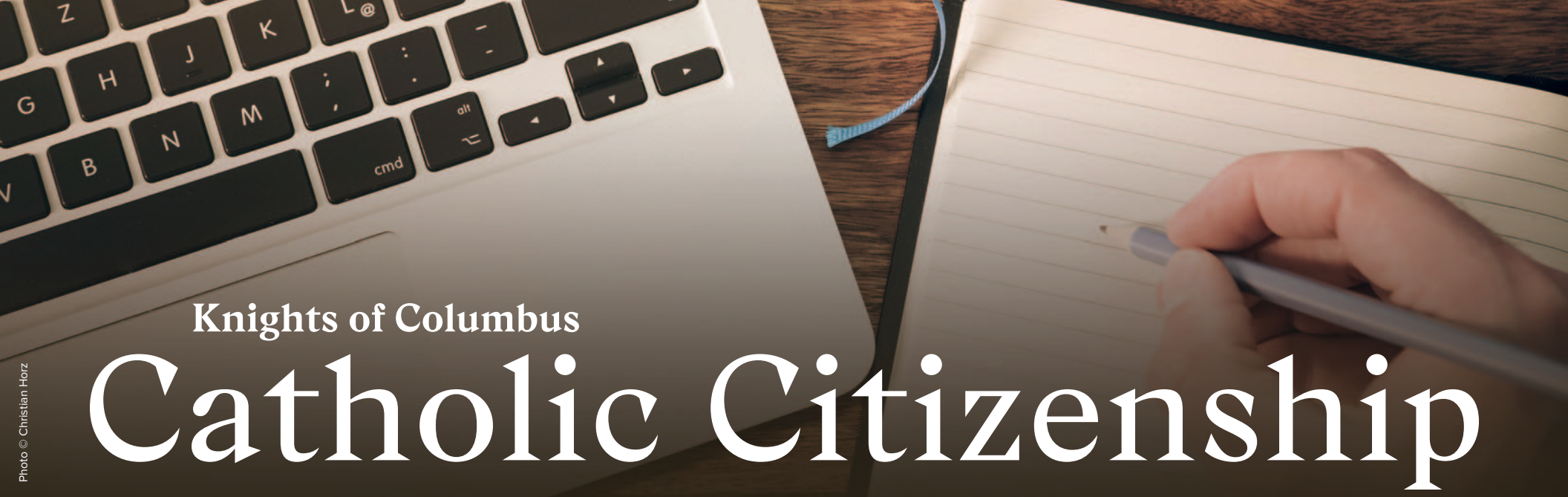
35 Points: Content — How thoroughly is the topic examined?

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



Knights of Columbus

Catholic Citizenship

Essay Contest

This is to certify that

_____ *has participated in the
Knights of Columbus Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest*

_____ *Sponsoring Council*

_____ *Grand Knight*

_____ *Date*



Knights of Columbus

Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest

Topic

Winner's Certificate is awarded to

Sponsoring Council



Grand Knight

Date

4207 8/21