

de sales university national catholic essay prize

The purpose of this essay contest is to recognize excellence in writing that shares the distinctiveness of Catholic thought. Essays are encouraged in a diversity of subjects and styles.

THEME

the eucharist & culture

AWARDS

First Prize: \$2,500 Scholarship

Second Prize: \$1,500 Scholarship

Third Prize: \$1,000 Scholarship

ELIGIBILITY

High School students in their Senior year of studies as of December 31, 2004

TOPIC

In this Year of the Eucharist we invite essays that will explore the relationship between the Eucharist and Culture. The topic for the essay should be guided by its relationship to Catholic thought. The style may either be formal or informal, depending upon the topic that is chosen. Most importantly, the essay should reflect an individual "voice" that shows how Catholicism interacts with the chosen topic. Possible approaches include theological, philosophical, biographical, historical, political, or literary analyses. Students are encouraged to raise ethical issues and to show how Catholic thought interacts with and influences contemporary culture. Students may write on any topic, so long as it relates to Catholic thought. Some possible questions that might be appropriate are:

- Does the Eucharist have an impact on American Culture?
- Can you link love for the Eucharist and love for the World?
- How does the Eucharist relate to what John Paul II calls the "Culture of Death?"
- What does the Eucharist mean in a "Spiritual, but not Religious" Age?
- Does the Eucharist influence politics?

This is not meant to be a definitive list of questions, but should point the writer toward the theme for this year.

Readers are looking for well-crafted essays that stay on the chosen topic. They should be original and creative with a developed sense of the Catholic tradition. Essays should demonstrate depth and intensity of thought.

RULES

1. Essays should be between 1,500 to 2,000 words in length. They should be written in English, typed in a 12-point font, and double spaced with 1" margins. All pages should be numbered. No names or identifying references should appear on the paper itself. Essays will be coded upon receipt to insure anonymity.
2. In one package, entrants must submit three copies of the essay, a completed Entry Form, and proof of eligibility from their school to be considered. Entrants are encouraged to mail entries as certified mail if they would like confirmation of receipt.
3. All entries must be received on or before **January 31, 2005**.
4. No electronic or faxed entries will be accepted.
5. All essays must be the original, unpublished work of the student.
6. Only one entry per student per contest year may be submitted.
7. Winning entries will become the property of DeSales University, including copyright.
8. Due to the volume of entries, submissions will not be returned.
9. Scholarships are not transferable and may only be used towards tuition charges at DeSales University upon successful matriculation.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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