



**Knights of
Columbus®**



Knights of Columbus ~ Utah State Council

November 1, 2021

This is the month that students should be participating in the **Knights of Columbus Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest**. Your Council needs to encourage participation and plan for Judging and Awards.

The Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest to encourage today's youth to be more connected to their community and their faith ends with submissions to the Council on November 30. The goal of this program is to involve young Catholics in 8th through 12th grade (public, private, parochial or home schools) in civic discourse and instill in them religious and life affirming values. Entrants will be judged on grammar, style, and how clearly they present the theme – which should showcase creativity, imagination and overall development of the topic. This contest encourages today's youth to be more connected to their community and their faith. This year's essay assignment is:

In an essay of 500-750 words, describe everyday obstacles that you may have experienced or witnessed others experiencing while living a life of authentic faith. Explain how you have overcome these obstacles and how, by doing so, it has helped your faith to continue to grow.

TIMELINE:

- Appoint a chairman in the council, start advertising the program right away.
- Entries are due to the Council by November 30.
 - Grand Knights please email me with the numbers of essays you received by grade.
- The Council needs to send up to five winning essays (one for each grade) to their District Deputy by December 20.
- I need to receive up to five essays from each District (one in each grade) by January 8 so the State can judge Utah winning essays.
- Utah's winners submitted to Supreme by January 31.

JUDGING:

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

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

- 35 points: Content – How clearly is the theme presented?
- 30 points: Grammar - Does the essay reflect proper sentence and paragraph structure and utilize correct spelling?
- 35 points: Style - Does the essay show creativity, imagination and development of the topic in a compelling style?
- All scores should be recorded on the entry form/score sheet.

RESOURCES:

Supplies Online in Officers Online (<https://www.KofC.org/OO>) has a program kit available for order. A kit costs \$5.00 and the price includes UPS ground shipping (which takes about 7 days). One kit is sufficient for 75 entries in a council. Item is “EA-KIT-E” for English, and “EA-KIT-S” for Spanish.

All the contents of the kit are publicly available as PDF files on the Supreme Council website. <https://www.KofC.org/Essay> (click the **RESOURCES** link box)

CATHOLIC CITIZENSHIP ESSAY CONTEST

Item	Name	Description
#10614	Guide Sheet	2-page guide on how to get started.
#10643	News Release – Fillable	1-page “press release” announcing the contest.
#4202-EA	[1] Guide Book	8-page manual (all the rules and regulations)
#4209	[5] Vertical Poster	1-page 11x17 poster announcing the contest.
#4208	[75] Entry Form	2-page entry form (reviews some rules and judging)
#4206	[75] Participant Certificate	1-page certificate for everyone who enters.
#4207	[5] Winners Certificate	1-page certificate for the council’s winners.
#10644	Winners Announcement	1-page “press release” announcing the contest winners.

[##] Indicates how many of the item are in the kit.

HELP:

Bill McCauley, FMFD is the 2021-2022 Knights of Columbus Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest Chairman for the Utah State Council. His contact information is in the Utah State Directory, and his contact page on the state website is <https://utahknights.org/knight/william-mccauley/>