

Middle and High School  
Respect Life Essay Contest 2018  
Diocese of Duluth  
Guidelines

**Respect Life Essay Contest Statement of Purpose**

The Diocese of Duluth strives to promote the ability of middle school students as well as high school students to articulate the argument for respecting life.

**2018 Contest Rules:**

- All middle school and high school students in the Diocese of Duluth are eligible to compete. In the case of advanced students or home education, the parish must recognize the student as working in those grade categories.
- Contest Categories: Grades 5-8 and Grades 9-12 (Catholic School and Parish entries).
- No more than 6 entries per religious education program, 3 per category, with a possible additional 3 entries per Catholic school may be submitted. **All parish and school entries must be submitted in the same envelope.**
- Contestants are to write, type and provide an original respect life essay on the theme **“Every Life Cherished, Chosen, Sent”** No copyrighted essays may be used in this contest.

**The essay:**

- Must be 250-300 words in length and typed double spaced.
- Should have a cover page with the contestant’s name, category level (Middle or High School), name of parish and school, the parent’s address and phone number.
- Should **NOT** have the student’s name on any pages of the actual essay.
- Should have cover page stapled to essay.
- Should give attention to organization, ideas, sentences, word choice, and mechanics.
- Should consist of words only. Pictures, icons, graphs or diagrams may not be included.
- Should be submitted with other parish entries in one envelope.

**Judging Guidelines:**

- Essays will be judged on persuasiveness and creativity.
- The contest director’s decision concerning the winners will be final. Ties will be handled by the contest director.
- Essays must be postmarked by Friday, December 14, 2018.

Winners will be announced in an upcoming issue of The Northern Cross. Winners will be notified in advance. Once the contest is completed, the Diocese of Duluth reserves the right to post essays or portions of submitted essays on the diocesan website, Facebook page and The Northern Cross for public viewing. Essays will not be used for profit.

Send essays to: Betsy Kneepkens  
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