

Cardinal Joseph Tobin Award for Priestly Vocations

SEVENTH GRADE

ESSAY & VIDEO CONTEST | REGISTRATION PACKET

2023

**Cardinal Joseph Tobin Award for Priestly Vocations
SEVENTH GRADE ESSAY CONTEST |
REGISTRATION FORM**

Each School or Parish will select 3 essays to submit to the Office of Priestly Vocations. All essay submissions must include a fully completed copy of this document in order for their entry to be valid.

**Mail this signed form to:
Office of Priestly Vocations
Immaculate Conception Seminary
400 South Orange Ave.
South Orange, NJ 07079**

Title of Essay

Student's Name

Grade

Age

Teacher/Catechist Name

School or Parish Name

City

State

County

Email

Phone

By signing this document, you affirm the following:

Student

I have read and understand the full Official Rules and Guidelines and agree to abide by those rules.

I have full authority to enter this essay into this contest and I promise that the essay is original and owned by me.

If necessary, I have obtained all releases and permissions to enter this project into the contest.

I understand that in the event my submission is selected as a winning entry, and the rights and/or originality of my entry cannot be verified to the satisfaction of the judges, an alternate winner may be selected in my place.

Student Signature

Parent/Guardian

I understand that my child has submitted an original essay to the Cardinal Joseph Tobin Award for Priestly Vocations Essay Contest. I grant full permission and authority to the Archdiocese of Newark Office of Priestly Vocations and anyone authorized by the organization, to use, publish, and display my or my child's work.

Parent/Guardian Name _____

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date: _____

**Cardinal Joseph W. Tobin Award for Priestly Vocations
Seventh Grade Essay and Video Contest
2023**

This provides basic information for students, parents, and teachers.

Please review the complete terms and conditions of this essay contest included with your registration form.

Essay Topic: Drawing from personal experience and research, write an essay that specifically answers the following questions:

What is the Roman Catholic Priesthood? How is it a force for good in the world?

*This is not a research paper. While there is the need for some research and drawing from sources, this essay should emphasize your personal experience and reflection.

Essay Length: 500-1000 words

Deadline: Each school/parish is to select and submit 3 essays no later than 11:59PM EST, Wednesday, March 8, 2023.

Submission: Students are highly encouraged to submit 1 essay and completed registration form to their teacher by February 24, 2023. Essays must be reviewed by each student's teacher/school prior to the March 8 deadline.

Each School/parish is to select no more than 3 essays and mail hard copies of the registration form and essays to Office of Priestly Vocations, Immaculate Conception Seminary, 400 South Orange Ave., South Orange, NJ 07079 AND email to info@NewarkPriest.com. (Subject line of email should read "School Name - Essay submissions" and title of word documents should be "Student Last Name, First Name - Essay Contest")

Essays must be received by March 8, 2023.

Finalists: Three essay finalists will be chosen to create a video based on their essay.

Winner: One winner will be selected from the three videos and awarded the grand prize of \$1,500. Each of the two finalists will be awarded \$250. A prize will also be awarded to the teacher who introduces the contest and mentors the winning student throughout its completion.

**Cardinal Joseph Tobin Award for Priestly Vocations
Seventh Grade Essay Contest Rules, Terms, Conditions**

Overview

- All essays should specifically answer the following questions:

What is the Roman Catholic Priesthood? How is it a force for good in the world?

- Essays will be 500 - 1000 words
- 3 Essay finalists will be selected to produce a video based on their essay.
- 1 final winner will be selected and offered a prize of \$1,500.00; each of the 2 finalists will receive \$250.

Eligibility

The contest is open to students, who are in **grade 7** during the time of the contest period (January 30, 2023 - March 8, 2023). Writers must be enrolled in a Catholic school or Parish Religious Education Program within the Archdiocese of Newark. All entries must be submitted to the student's teacher or catechist; no more than one essay per writer.

Essay Length

Essays should be no less than 500 and no more than 1,000 words in length. Submissions that do not meet this requirement will not be accepted.

Deadline and Submission

Students may submit 1 essay and completed registration form to their teacher, with every encouragement to do so before February 24, 2023. Essays must be reviewed by each student's teacher/school prior to the March 8 deadline. Each School or Parish is to select no more than 3 essays and mail hard copies of the registration form and essays to:

Office of Priestly Vocations, Immaculate Conception Seminary,
400 South Orange Ave., South Orange, NJ 07079

AND

email to

info@NewarkPriest.com.

(Subject line of email should read "School Name - Essay submissions" and title of word documents should be "Student Last Name, First Name - Essay Contest")

School submissions are due no later than 11:59pm Eastern Time, Wednesday, March 8, 2023.

Plagiarism

All essays must be the original work of the student whose name is listed on the submission form. Any form of plagiarism will result in immediate disqualification.

Judges

Essays will be judged on their ability to answer the topic in an articulate, clear, and organized manner. Essay submissions will be reviewed in a fair and unbiased judging system, where judges will all use the same criteria. Decisions of the judges are final.

Ownership and Use

The ownership of any submission remains the property of the writer, but entry into the competition constitutes the entrant's permission and consent, without compensation, with or without attribution, for Archdiocesan use, reproduce, transmit, post, distribute, adapt, edit, and/or display the submission.

Selection of Finalists

Finalists will be notified no later than Wednesday, April 5, 2023.

Finalists

Those selected as finalists will be notified and asked to produce and submit a video related to their essay. All video contest finalists must adhere to the following Video Contest Rules and Guidelines

Video Contest Rules and Guidelines

1. All entries must be a digital video
2. Each entry must be based on the writer's essay.
3. The length of the video should not exceed 4 minutes; videos longer than 4 minutes will not be accepted.
4. All entries should begin with a 10 second full-screen "title screen" that includes the following information:
 - Student's name
 - School or parish name, School or parish city
 - Title of video
 - Total running time
5. All information presented in the video must be cited at the end of the video, giving credit to the original source. Plagiarism of any kind will result in disqualification. You must submit a list of your sources, properly cited.
6. There is no entry fee.
7. Entries may be submitted up to but no later than 11:59pm Eastern Time, Monday, May 8, 2023.
 - a. Winners will be announced no later than Monday June 5, 2023.
8. All entries must be submitted in digital format (ie. Youtube, google drive, email).
9. No copyrighted materials (music, images, etc.) may be used for this contest unless you own the copyright or have a license to use the material for this contest. Written permission must be obtained and provided upon request for all copyrighted materials.
10. No professional assistance is allowed. The student finalist will be the lead producer of the video. Adults may assist with production but are limited to verbal guidance only. Adults are allowed to be actors or cameramen but not content contributors. All actors must submit a release form (see #12)
11. All portions of the online entry form must be completed when you upload your video for it to be eligible.
12. You must submit a signed/completed **Parent Permission Form** and a signed/completed **Actor Release Form** for **each person** appearing in your video. Forms can be scanned/emailed to: info@newarkpriest.com or mailed to Office of Priestly Vocations, Immaculate Conception Seminary, 400 South Orange Ave., South Orange, NJ 07079
13. Content must comply with all local and national laws of the country of origin and the United States. Content must not 1) promote illegal or unethical behavior; 2) support racial, religious, sexual or other invidious prejudice; 3) violate rights established by law or agreement; 4) invade the privacy of any person; or 5) be otherwise inappropriate as determined by the Archdiocese of Newark in its sole and conclusive determination.
14. The judges' decisions, based on a predefined rubric, are final.
15. The only compensation for submitting a video is the opportunity to be awarded a prize if the entry wins. There is no additional compensation.
16. All entries must be submitted in English, if entries are not in English they must include English subtitles.
17. Awards will be presented as follows: \$1,500.00 to the winner, \$250 to finalists, and \$500 to the teacher who introduced the contest and mentored the winning student in the contest.
18. Winner will be solely responsible for any federal, state, or local taxes on winnings. (if applicable)
19. Students should keep at least one copy of their video. The Archdiocese of Newark is not responsible for any films that are lost, damaged, or that do not upload properly.
20. Ownership of the underlying intellectual property of the project remains with the entrant, with the following exceptions

- Entrants grant the Archdiocese of Newark the right to use their names, photographs, statements, quotes, testimonials, and video submissions for advertising, publicity, and promotional purposes without notification or further compensation.
 - Entrants also grant the Archdiocese of Newark the right to use, reproduce, reprint, distribute, perform, and/or display the entrant's project video without further compensation or notification to the entrant.
 - The Archdiocese maintains the right to reproduce, reprint, distribute, perform, display, or exhibit the project for advertising, publicity, and promotional purposes on their website, at conferences, or at any other venues.
21. By accepting the prizes, winners agree to hold the Archdiocese of Newark and all its employees harmless against any and all claims and liability arising out of use of such prizes. Winner assumes all liability for any injury or damage caused from participation in the contest or use/redemption of any prize.
22. Entrants agree to be bound by the official contest rules and decisions of the judges.