



Knights of Columbus Hosted OLV 2026 Annual 8th Grade Student Essay Contest

Are YOU: In the 8th Grade? An Our Lady of Victory parishioner?

ENTER and WIN!

Essay Theme: *Charity is the first of the core principles of the Knights of Columbus. Our founder, Blessed Fr. Michael McGivney, practiced many different forms of Charity to include time, talent, and works of mercy. How can you, as a young Catholic, practice and promote Charity within your family, parish, school, and our community?*



Who may enter: OLV parishioners in the 8th Grade at ANY school (including home-schooled)

Submission period: Saturday, January 24-Monday, February 9, 2026 (closes at Midnight)

Submit your essay and any questions to: essay@olvnorthville.net

Formats: Microsoft Word (.doc or .docx) or, if handwritten, scanned as PDF (.pdf)

Word Count: 500 words, maximum

IMPORTANT – In your email, please include: Your name, school, grade (which is 8th, right?), the name of your parent(s), address, and telephone number.

Essays will be judged on:

- Thorough examination of the theme
- Style
- Grammar, spelling, and composition

PRIZES!

1st Place: \$500 (\$250 cash and \$250 toward the charity of your choice)

2nd Place: \$300 (\$150 cash and \$150 toward the charity of your choice)

3rd Place: \$200 (\$100 cash and \$100 toward the charity of your choice)

Note: Submitted essays must be the sole and original creation of the declared contest participant. Essays once submitted become the property of OLV's Knights of Columbus. Winners will be notified the week of February 24 and asked to propose the charity of their choice when prizes are awarded. Winners and their families are invited to attend the KofC Rib Night Awards Ceremony scheduled for Tuesday, March 10.

Submission Period and Contact: Saturday, January 24 through Monday, February 9, 2026 (contest closes at midnight). Email to essay@olvnorthville.net.

Check out these past contest winners and their chosen charities!

2025 Winners

1. **Tyler Binck:** Shriners Hospital for Children
2. **Marcus Mast:** Crossroads of Michigan
3. **Brynn Somers:** Wee Care-K9s for Warriors

2024 Winners

1. **Sarah Leiger:** Forgotten Harvest, Detroit
2. **Sofia Lorelli:** St. Jude Children's Research Hospital
3. **Penelope Culp:** Give Kids the World Village, Florida

2023 Winners

1. **Kyle Erfurt:** Brilliant Detroit
2. **Carley Cardenas:** Providing for Paws, Garden City
3. **Maxwell Mast:** Crossroads of Michigan, Detroit

2022 Winners

1. **Abigail Bores:** Knights of Columbus, New Haven, CT
2. **Avery Faut:** Wounded Warrior Project, Topeka, KS
3. **Ireland Perttunen:** Gleaner's Food Bank, Detroit