



**The John Carroll Society
2021 Margaret Mary Missar
High School Essay/Video Competition**

The John Carroll Society (JCS) of the Archdiocese of Washington is once again sponsoring its annual **Margaret Mary Missar Scholarship and Essay/Video Competition** for high school students. The High School Scholarship Program consists of an essay/video competition open to all high school freshmen, sophomores, and juniors attending Catholic high schools in the Archdiocese of Washington. High school seniors are not eligible to participate in this contest.

AWARDS

In memory of JCS member, Margaret Mary Missar, the High School Essay/Video Scholarship Awards are as follows:

Essay Winners:

One First Place Winner	\$1,000
One Second Place Winner	\$500
Two Third Place Winners	\$250 each
Five Honorable Mention Winners	\$100 each

Video Winners:

One First Place Winner	\$1,000
One Second Place Winner	\$500
Two Third Place Winners	\$250 each
Five Honorable Mention Winners	\$100 each

At least one student from each school submitting 10 or more essays will receive an Honorable Mention award. Scholarship awards will be sent directly to the winners' respective schools for credit towards their 2021-2022 tuition.

COMPETITION INSTRUCTIONS

- **Essays/Videos must be submitted on, or before March 15, 2021 on the John Carroll Society website.**
- Questions: Please direct questions to Kasia Demaree at kdemaree@stoneridgeschool.org

ESSAY COMPETITION

- Essays must be original work, expository in nature, in double-space type, 1000-1500 words total, and with proper citations to any sources.
- We ask that the essays be submitted by the student electronically in PDF format.
 - When uploading, the student will be prompted to enter his/her name, school name, year of graduation, and student's home address and home phone number.
 - Do not include any personal information (eg. student name, school name) in the PDF document. Essays with any personal information will be disqualified.
- Essays will be judged by a distinguished panel of JCS members
- Judging will be based on scholarship, originality, writing and rhetorical skill, and coverage of the topic. Judges' decisions are final.

VIDEO COMPETITION

- Videos must be original work, with proper citations to any sources.
- We ask that the videos be submitted by the student electronically in MOV, MP4, MPEG4 format. Videos are not to exceed 3 minutes in length.
 - When uploading, the student will be prompted to enter his/her name, school name, year of graduation, and student's home address and home phone number.
 - Students may narrate their video and appear in it if they wish. However, do not include any personal information (eg. student name, school name) in the movie file. Videos with any personal information will be disqualified.
- Videos will be judged by a distinguished panel of JCS members
- Judging will be based on originality, skill, and coverage of the topic. Judges' decisions are final.

COMPETITION TIMELINE

February 10, 2021	Competition information distributed to Catholic high schools
March 15, 2021	Competition submission deadline
March 16-April 2, 2021	Competition evaluation by readers, viewers and judges
April 9, 2021	Winners Announced
April 23, 2021	First place winners honored at the (virtual) 34th Annual John Carroll Society Virtual Meeting

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“Made in God’s Image: Pray and Work to End the Sin of Racism”

INTRO TO THEME

This year's Margaret Mary Missar Essay/Video Competition, sponsored by The John Carroll Society, invites students to reflect on the topic: “Made in God’s Image: Pray and Work to End the Sin of Racism,” and to consider the following questions and themes in their response.

Topic One: Pray

[ADW Prayer](#)

How can the gifts of the Holy Spirit aid you, your school, or the Church in addressing America’s “original sin” of racism and bring humanity closer to live in full communion with each other and unite as the Body of Christ? Your essay or video should comment or focus on your understanding of any of the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit and how prayer and contemplation can lead, inspire, or direct you to be instruments of change and peace.

Topic Two: Learn

[High School Educational Resources](#)

In their pastoral letter “Open Wide Our Hearts,” the US Conference of Catholic Bishops wrote about changing structures. They wrote:

The roots of racism have extended deeply into the soil of our society. Racism can only end if we contend with the policies and institutional barriers that perpetuate and preserve the inequality – economic and social – that we still see all around us. With renewed vigor, we call on the members of the Body of Christ to join others in advocating and promoting policies at all levels that will combat racism and its effects in our civic and social institutions. ‘Even in the developed world,’ Pope Francis told members of the U.S. Congress, ‘the effects of unjust structures and actions are all too apparent. Our efforts must aim at restoring hope, righting wrongs, maintaining commitments and thus promoting the well-being of individuals and of peoples.’ (p. 28)

Research what faith-based organizations are doing anti-racism work. How can this research help you to contribute to faith-based anti-racism work that is happening in your school or community?

Topic Three: Act

Through your video or essay, describe how you and/or your school community can take a leadership role in working to end the sin of racism. Your answer should include how your understanding of faith and spirituality calls us for this action.