



February 10, 2021

Dear Colleagues,

I hope this note finds you in good health as we approach the Lenten season and continue to navigate this challenging time of pandemic. I am writing to inform you of the **2021 John Carroll Society Margaret Mary Missar High School Essay and Video Competition**, and to ask you to encourage participation in your school. You will note that this is the first year that students have the option of submitting either a video or a written essay. We hope that the introduction of video storytelling will inspire even more students to participate. The deadline for submissions is **March 15, 2021**.

This competition is one of just a few local contests directed towards offering our students the opportunity to reflect on some of the serious and profound issues regarding the Church and their faith. This year, The John Carroll Society chose the theme, “**Made in God’s Image: Pray and Work to End the Sin of Racism.**” Suggested approaches to this theme for students to consider are attached to this letter.

We ask that you distribute the attachment we are providing in this email to your Religion Department Chair, Director of Campus Ministry, Chaplain, and/or others who might be interested and able to encourage student participation. (Or simply forward this email with the [linked submission page](#)). Some schools use the contest as a class assignment and submit the best student work. Other schools encourage broad support from their entire student body. Schools may enter as many essays and/or videos as they wish. Last year, approximately 350 essays were submitted from ten high schools. **This year, it is the John Carroll Society’s goal to have representation from each of our Catholic High Schools.**

Sincerely,

Catherine Ronan Karrels  
*Chair, John Carroll Society Essay/Video Contest*  
*Head of School, Stone Ridge School of the Sacred Heart*