

DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

RESPECT LIFE OFFICE

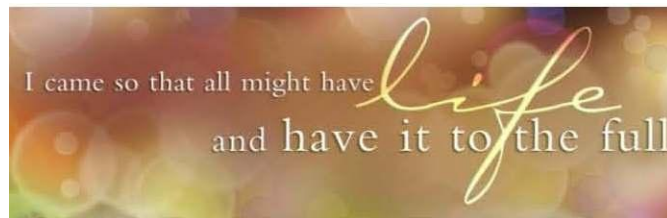
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(516) 678-5800 Ext. 626 www.drvc.org/respectlife

August 23, 2011

To: Pastors

Respect Life Leaders

RESPECT LIFE YOUTH CONTEST THEME 2012



The Diocesan Respect Life Office is excited to announce the 9th annual Youth Respect Life Contest for grades 7-8 Level 1, and grades 9-12 Level 2. We welcome all Catholic youngsters in the Rockville Centre Diocese attending Catholic Elementary, High Schools or parish programs including religious education, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, youth groups, youth choirs and **we encourage children with special needs to participate as well**. The awards ceremony will be on March 22, 2012.

The contest begins September 7th 2011, and closes with submission from each parish or schools first prize winning entries. It is up to principals and respect life leaders to determine a fair way to judge the entries in the school and parish contest respectively (One only entry per category, per school, per parish is allowed and more than one will disqualify the school and entrant). **All entries must be attached to the registration form, postmarked by January 27, 2012, and mailed to the Respect Life Office. Please note the registration form must be signed by a parent or guardian.**

Participation in the contest is through poetry, art (book mark design), essay, photography, music and video. The contest is designed to educate and provide a platform for youth to express and share their ideas and feelings on Respect Life issues that promote the dignity and respect for all persons from conception through natural death. All entries will be judged on originality and expression of thought in relation to our Catholic faith and the contest theme, **“I came so that all might have *life* and have it to the full”**. Respect life issues cover abortion, adoption, euthanasia, cloning, stem cell research, just war doctrine, death penalty, suicide, responsibility of Catholic politicians, reproductive technologies that include invitro- fertilization and embryo adoption, marriage, chastity, rights of the disabled and conscience protection for Catholic Healthcare workers.

Program Guidelines:

Essay- Must be typed and limited to 400 words

Poetry- Must be typed and limited to 21 lines

Music- both melody and lyrics must be the contestant's original creation unless the melody is in the public domain. The music must be submitted on a CD.

Photography- The photo must be an 8x10 color or B&W photo taken only by the contestant. Please submit entry with photo form and disclaimer on the back.

Book Mark Design-Must be accompanied with registration form and book mark entry form. No exceptions.

Video - Please submit a video on DVD no more than 2:30 min long. (Winners should be ready to submit their video in a web-ready format, according to the rules of YouTube videos. See:

http://www.youtube.com/t/creators_corner)

All contest material will be available on the diocesan website www.drvc.org/respectlife

Cash awards are given for first, second and third place winners for both levels in each category.

■ *First place winners will receive \$400.00*

■ *Second place winners will receive \$250.00*

■ *Third Place winners will receive \$150.00*

Every student who participates in the contest including those who are not finalists will receive a certificate of participation. Please send a typed list of all students who have entered the contest by **January 27, 2012**.

Certificates will be available the night of the awards March 22, 2012

Please feel free to use this information for your bulletin.

Sincerely Yours in Christ,



Allison O'Brien

Director