

Fr. Charles Irvin Writing Scholarship 2010

FAITH Magazine is once again sponsoring a writing scholarship contest for Catholic high-school seniors in the Diocese of Lansing. This annual scholarship was set up to honor our founding editor, Fr. Charles E. Irvin. As founding editor of FAITH, Fr. Charlie inspired and guided a fine team of writers to deliver the first official publication for the Diocese of Lansing.

FAITH is committed to encouraging young people to write. Modern media will always rely on individuals who use the English language to speak to our ambitions, hopes and dreams. For many, faith is an important part of those hopes and dreams. The ability to express faith lived out in words is our primary reason for establishing this scholarship.

Our second reason is to encourage young people to consider writing as a career. There are many rewarding jobs in journalism – including Catholic journalism. Writing about faith can be a rewarding career and life-giving ministry. FAITH Magazine hopes this contest will give someone a reason and opportunity to seriously consider writing as a career.

The final reason for the scholarship is to demonstrate FAITH's commitment to education. By supporting our Catholic high schools and faith formation programs, we hope to show our dedication to the good work that goes on there. We also hope this scholarship will both encourage and, in a small way, assist high school seniors in attending college.

Mastering English is one thing. Having something to say is another. Excellent writing requires both. Catholic faith formation fosters both because of its role in creating a society of faith-filled yet critical thinkers. The winning essay must demonstrate this. **The essay subject is: How do I talk to my friends about Jesus? If I don't, why not?** Here are the specifics:

Applicants: *Catholic high-school seniors who are students at a diocesan Catholic high school and/or who are active participants in their parish's youth group/religious education program.*

Essay length: *800-1200 words*

Entries due: *April 2, 2010. Awards given at graduation.*

Scholarship: *One \$1,000 first prize, plus publication in FAITH Magazine, September 2010
Two runners-up: publication on www.faithmag.com plus a copy of Father Joe Krupp's book, Smart Answers and Bad Jokes from a Priest Who Proves God Has a Sense of Humor*

Judges: *Fr. Charles E. Irvin, Founding Editor, FAITH
Fr. Dwight Ezop, Editor in Chief, FAITH
Patrick M. O'Brien, Managing Editor/Creative Director, FAITH
Elizabeth Martin Solsburg, Editorial Director, FAITH*

Submissions: *Typed essays, with no identifying information except the title, should be sent to:
**Fr. Charles Irvin Writing Scholarship,
FAITH Magazine, 1500 E. Saginaw, Lansing, MI 48906**
On a separate cover sheet, please include: Essay title, student's name, age, teacher or school contact if you are in a Catholic high school or DRE contact if you are in a parish religious ed. program, high school, prospective college and major.*

Essays may be submitted electronically to esolsburg@faithcatholic.com.

Submissions must be sent by DRE, CYM, Catholic high-school teacher or pastor. Direct student submissions will not be considered.