

Marian Essay Contest 2026

The Marian Essay Contest was established by Fr. Frank X. Zammit to provide students with the opportunity to deepen their devotion to the Blessed Mother and better understand their own role as disciples and stewards of God's grace. This scholarship award can be used for Catholic school tuition, domestic mission trips, San Pedro retreats and/or to donate to the diocesan parish, school or ministry of their choice! An award will also be given to the top 7th/8th grade essay and 5th/6th grade essay as chosen from the remaining entries.

Who can enter?

- Incoming or outgoing middle school students (academic year 2025–2026)
- Must be enrolled in a Diocese of Orlando Catholic school or parish faith formation, religious education, youth ministry or other catechetical formation program

Essay Theme: Mary, Our Heavenly Mother

Mary is our loving Heavenly Mother who intercedes for us and gently leads us to Jesus. In your essay, reflect on how Mary cares for you personally. Describe a time when you felt her comfort, guidance, or protection and share how you can turn to Mary more intentionally in your daily life to deepen your relationship with Jesus.

Download

Marian Essay Contest Entry Form at cfocf.org/mariancontest

Entry form and essay must be submitted on April 15th

Questions? Contact Lisa Oliveras at loliveras@cfocf.org

- 400-500 Words
- Times New Roman, 12-point font
- Double spaced
- Standard margins



Winning entry receives

\$1,000 Scholarship



The Marian Contest is administered through the Fr. Frank X. Zammit Endowment Fund at The Catholic Foundation of Central Florida in partnership with The Office of Schools and The Office of Laity, Family and Life.