

# FRIARS STUDENT WRITING CONTEST 2025

November 11, 2024 - January 13, 2025



THE CATHOLIC REGISTER



Image: Harold Copping. Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons

**“DO YOU BELIEVE THIS?”**  
(CF. JOHN 11:26)

The theme and resources for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity are prepared and published by Dicastery for Promoting Christian Unity (Vatican) and Commission on Faith and Order of the World Council of Churches.

## Focus Question for the Writing Contest (Essay) 2025

At the request of Martha and Mary, Jesus gives new life to his friend Lazarus (John 11:26).

Where is this miracle needed today? How can you and our faith communities participate in bringing this new life about?

Conclude your essay by composing a prayer to Jesus to help us reach out to those in need as friends and disciples.

## Contest Rules

- The Essay should focus on the theme of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity from the Gospel of John 11:26, “Do you believe this?” Please read John 11:17-43 for full understanding.
- The contestants should consult resources of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2025 at <https://bit.ly/WPCU2025> and submit a 450-500-word essay that answers the given focus question.
- The contestants must be 13-19 years of age, and currently enrolled in an Ontario Secondary School or equivalent program.
- The essay must be submitted on or before Monday, January 13, 2025, by 2:00 p.m. Late entries will not be accepted.
- Entries must include contestants full name, email address, phone number and name of their school and school board on the front page of their essay.

Entries are to be submitted at [www.catholicregister.org/writingaward](http://www.catholicregister.org/writingaward)  
For any enquiries contact [ecumenical@archtoronto.org](mailto:ecumenical@archtoronto.org) or call 416-934-3400, ext. 527

## Selection of Winners

All submissions will be read by a panel including professional journalists and the Director of the Office for Promoting Christian Unity, Archdiocese of Toronto, and judged on overall merit.



**1st Prize:**  
Google Pixel 8a 128GB



**2nd Prize:**  
Samsung Galaxy Tab A9+  
(Plus)



**3rd Prize:**  
Google Pixel Watch 2 (GPS)  
40mm